In this issue…

The Urban Kibbutz Movement page 16

Jewish Volunteers and VNP page 19

Musical Theater with Ari Axelrod page 21

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WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

October 2018 Tishrei/Cheshvan 5778 Volume XVIII Number 2 FREE

Old world meets new world for the Arts Around Town: Jewish Book and Arts Festival

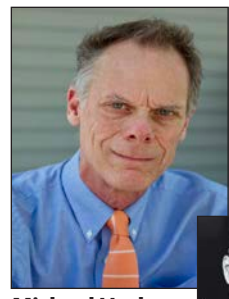
Clara Silver, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will present Arts Around Town: Jewish Book and Arts Festival beginning Thursday, October 18, and continuing through Monday, November 12. For 31 years the JCC has produced a festival — originally exclusively a book festival — which has evolved to a broader festival celebrating authors and artists of all kinds. In addition, events now take place both at the Ann Arbor JCC as well as in partnership with local organizations at venues in the city of Ann Arbor spread over four weeks.

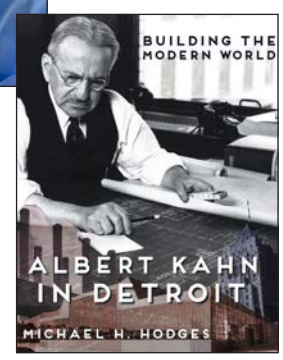
Arts Around Town opens at the JCC on Thursday, October 18, at 7 p.m. when well-known attorney and law professor Alan Dershowitz will speak with a representative of the American Friends of Magen David Adom, the organization that helps support Israel's Magen David Adom, an organization similar to the American Red Cross. Tickets for the event cost $18 each and must be purchased in advance as space is limited and walk-ins may not be able to be accommodated. Tickets are available from American Friends of Magen David Adom at afmda.org/event/talk-with-alan-dershowitz.

The annual Book and Gift Sale concurrent with Arts Around Town will open the same evening, Thursday, October 18, in the atrium of the JCC. A variety of books of popular genres, as well as books from the presenters and authors who will be guest of the festival, and Chanukah gifts and supplies will be available through Friday, November 30. The Book and Gift Sale will be open anytime the JCC is open, and proceeds support continued cultural arts programming.

The festival continues with a special evening of Yiddish-American Operetta at the University of Michigan's Britton Hall. On Tuesday, October 23, at 7:30 p.m., guest musicologist and retired music librarian from Harvard Dr. Michael Ochs will introduce the audience to *Di Goldene Kale*, an internationally performed Yiddish-American production that originally opened in 1923 at the famous Second Avenue Theater on Manhattan's Lower East Side. University of Michigan faculty and students will perform selections from *Di Goldene Kale*.



Michael Hodges



On Thursday, October 25, the evening will begin with the annual sponsor dinner at 6 p.m., for those members of the community who donate at least $180 or more to this year's Arts Around Town. The evening will continue with guest author, Michael Hodges, who will present his book *Building the Modern World: Albert Kahn in Detroit*. The event is free and open to the public and will include a dessert reception and book signing. This book chronicles architect Kahn's unique contribution to the creation of modern manufacturing as well as his role in defending and preserving the famous Diego Rivera mural at the Detroit Institute of Art, and his role in helping the Soviets push back the Nazis in 1941–1942.

Arts Around Town will host photographer Leslie Sobel on Sunday, October 29, for a reception and exhibition of some of the 5,000 photographs she took documenting the Eclipse Ice field, one of the largest non-polar ice fields on earth in the Kluane National Park in Canada's Yukon Territoy. Literati Books about partners with Arts Around Town on Tuesday, October 30, at 7 p.m., to present Harvey Ovshinksy, who will present about his father, Stanford Ovshinksy, and the biography about his father, *The Man Who Saw Tomorrow*.

On Thursday, November 1, at 7:30 p.m. the Eastern Michigan University Center for Judaic Studies will host an actor's studio-style event with Lisa Kron, the playwright who won the Tony Award for authoring the hit Broadway

continued on page 2

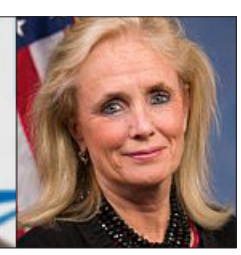
Immigrants and refugees — today, yesterday, and tomorrow

Laurie Cohen, special to the WJN

The United States has a checkered history of alternatively welcoming and rejecting immigrants and refugees. Jews have stood on both sides of the metaphorical American fence as natives and strangers, as immigrants (legal and illegal) and refugees. How have Jews responded to crises in the past? How does examining that past help us understand what is happening today? As the premier resettlement agency in Southeast Michigan, Jewish Family Services will present two programs this month about refugees.

Mark Hetfield

Dr. Jeff Crisp



Debbie Dingell

Keeping Our Door Open: A Multi-Dimensional Approach to Refugee Resettlement Symposium will be held on October 22 and 23 at Rackham Graduate School at the University of Michigan. This is a collaboration between Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County and the U-M School of Social Work. The two-day symposium will consider the most significant aspects in the present international and domestic refugee system with four tracks: 1) Impact and Integration; 2) Transformative

continued on page 2

Tony Award winner Lisa Kron to speak at EMU

Martin B. Shichtman, special to the WJN

On Thursday, November 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the EMU Student Center Auditorium, the Eastern Michigan University Center for Jewish Studies will host "A Conversation With Lisa Kron." Writer and performer Lisa Kron is the winner of two Tony awards and was finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for the book and lyrics to the musical *Fun Home*. Her work has been widely produced in New York, regionally, and internationally.

This event is co-sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor 2018 Books and Arts Festival, the EMU Honors Program, the EMU English department, EMU Women's and Gender Studies, and EMU Communication, Media, and Theater Arts. Admission is free.

Also in November, the EMU Center for Jewish Studies will offer a lecture by acclaimed artist and essayist Jason Francisco. Francisco, an associate professor in the department of Film and Media Studies at Emory University, brings together documentary and conceptual art. His photos and writings focus on the complications of historical memory, the inheritance of trauma, and new directions in the art of witness. Francisco will address "The Holocaust at 75: Remembrance as Public Practice" in the EMU Student Center Ballroom on Monday, November 19, at 7:30 p.m. This event is co-sponsored by the EMU program in Creative Writing and the Department of Art. Admission is free. ■

Lisa Kron

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Diva Royale is a spectacular farce brought to us by the author of such comedies as *Escanaba in da Moonlight*, *The Tropical Pickle* and *Norma & Wanda*. The play follows the exploits of three midwestern stay-at-home moms who plan a last minute trip to NYC to see their favorite star Celine Dion perform and maybe experience a bit of the romance lacking in their lives. As soon as they get on the plane things go very wrong resulting in an evening of sidesplitting hilarity.

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Community

Jewish Book and Arts Festival, continued from page 1

show, *Fun Home*. The conversation will be hosted by Jessica "Decky" Alexander in the EMU Student Center auditorium.

Sunday, November 4, there will be two Arts Around Town events at the JCC. At 10 a.m., author Judy Seid will discuss her book, *God Optional Judaism: Alternatives for Cultural Jews Who Love Their History*. At 4 p.m., holocaust survivor Irene Butter, will discuss her book, *Shores Beyond Shores: From Holocaust to Hope: My True Story*, in conversation with Kenneth C. Fischer, retired president of the University Musical Society of the University of Michigan. Dr. Maya Barzilai, author and University of Michigan professor, will visit the festival on Thursday, November 8, where she will present "Golem: Modern Wars and Their Monsters," exploring the Golem myths and their applications in the 20th and early 21st centuries.

Pola Negri - Scene from *The Yellow Ticket*

The closing event of the festival will take place on Monday, November 12, at the Michigan Theater with a screening of *The Yellow Ticket*, in conjunction with the University of Michigans' Copernicus Program in Polish Studies and Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. This is a rare silent film, staring Pola Negri, who became a huge silent film star, and follows a bright Jewish girl from the ghetto of Warsaw to the university in St. Petersburg. Along the way she finds out that Jewish women may only live in St. Petersburg as legal sex workers; hence, she applies for the required "yellow ticket" and begins her double life as a medical student by day, party girl by night.

Accompanying the film will be Alicia Svigals, the world-renowned klezmer violinist/vocalist/composer who is a founder of the Grammy winning Klezmatics. She composed an original score for the film and will play live along with Toronto's virtuoso pianist, Marilyn Lerner. Tickets for this film range in cost based on proximity to the stage, and can be purchased at the Michigan Theater website, michtheater.org/the-yellow-ticket, or the box office. Arts Around Town sponsors may attend at no charge, but must RSVP in advance.

All events and presentations are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Most events will be held at the JCC at 2935 Birch Hollow Drive. Those events held at other venues are noted on the festival's website. For more information regarding Arts Around Town: Jewish Book and Arts Festival, visit book.jccannarbor.org or contact Jewish Cultural Arts and Education Director Karen Freedland at karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org or calling (734) 971-0990. ■

Immigrants and refugees, continued from page 1

Practice; 3) Health and Wellness; and 4) Policy and Advocacy. The symposium will include presentations by academic experts, policy-makers, nonprofit social services professionals, and government officials to analyze the limitations in the present refugee system and discuss ways of overcoming these constraints.

Keynote speakers for the symposium include:

- Mark Hetfield, president and CEO of HIAS. HIAS partners with refugee and immigrant organizations to ensure proper advocacy and treatment of new Americans. They are headquartered in Maryland.
- Dr. Jeff Crisp, Refugee Studies Center, University of Oxford. Dr. Crisp is visiting scholar at the U-M Law School. He previously held a position executively with UNHCR. He is now a research associate at the Refugee Studies Center, a global leader in multidisciplinary research on forced migration.
- Congresswoman Debbie Dingell. An active community member and advocate for women and children's rights, and a former chair of the board of governors at Wayne State University.

Registration includes breakfast and lunch and two social work CEUS are available. For additional information, got to jfsannarbor.org/symposium. ■

Annual flu shot clinic returns to the J

Rachael Hoffenblum, special to WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will once again partner with CVS to provide flu shots for the entire community. This year's clinic will be held on Tuesday, October 16, from noon-6 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. Advanced sign-up is recommended to reduce waiting times, and is available by visiting the Welcome Center at the JCC, where participants will choose a time and sign the usual waiver. Participants will need to bring their insurance cards with them. Individuals who receive their flu shot at the J will also receive a $5 Target gift card. The JCC has hosted a flu shot clinic annually for many years as a service to the community. Participants should check with their own medical providers if they have any concerns regarding flu shots. To sign up for a time slot or for more information, contact Rachael Hoffenblum, operations manager and adult program coordinator at (734) 971-0990 or rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org. ■

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Extra copies of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* are available at locations throughout Washtenaw County.

In this issue…

Advertisers 27
Best Reads 20
Campus 4
Congregations 10
Federation 8
Kosher Cuisine 22
On Another Note 21
Rabbi's Corner 9
Seniors 7
Youth 13
Vitals 27

The Practice of Forgiveness and the Sage-ing® Legacy Program

Linda Jo Doctor, special to the WJN

Lucinda Kurtz, M.A. and Oran Hesterman, Ph.D., members of the Pardes Hannah Jewish Renewal Community in Ann Arbor and certified Sage-ing® Mentors, will present a workshop three-part series this fall on "The Practice of Forgiveness." Kurtz and Hesterman recently graduated from the Sage-ing® Legacy Program of the Yerusha Institute, which is a partner of the national organization ALEPH. Both Kurtz and Hesterman have a strong commitment to pass down the legacy of Reb Zalman Schacter-Shalomi, the Founder of Jewish Renewal and the initiator of the now growing movement of spiritual eldering.

Lucinda Kurtz and Oran Hesterman

In his groundbreaking book, *From Age-ing to Sage-ing: A Profound New Vision of Growing Older*, published in 1995, Reb Zalman suggests ways that one can use one's life experience to heal themselves and this world. The Sage-ing® Mentorship Program further develops Reb Zalman's explorations into a full-bodied program that trains participants on how to use effective psycho-spiritual techniques to assist them in releasing the places of great hurt in their lives.

The next two sessions of "The Practice of Forgiveness" will be from 2–5 p.m. on Sunday, October 7, and Sunday, November 11. Kurtz and Hesterman will explore one of the most powerful tools individuals have to reformat the template of their being – forgiveness. These sessions will provide ways to reach back into the past to repair painful memories — the broken promises, ruptures and heartaches that come with the territory of intimate relationships and living in the world.

Using energetic practices, mediation, creative visualization, journaling and other embodied practices, participants will delve into the three parts of forgiveness: repairing the harm to other; forgiving others; and forgiving ourselves. Forgiveness allows each individual to move forward in their lives in a more positive and creative way.

Although there will be a progression and continuity between the sessions classes, each one class can stand alone and can be taken individually. The cost is $25 per session. For more information, contact Kurtz at Lucinda@lucindakurtz.com.

Kurtz and Hesterman are also presenting their Age-ing to Sage-ing work at a Salon at the Crazy Wisdom Bookstore on Tuesday, October 16, at 7 p.m. Their Salon is entitled, "Facing your Mortality with Grace," and will explore how to transform fears of aging and mortality. Confronting mortality frees one to live more fully in the present moment and helps one be grateful for the fullness and challenges of one's life. Guest participants will include: Renee Rutz, Cranial Sacral therapist; Michelle Chaves-Torres, massage therapist; and Angela Madaras, freelance writer and hospice graduate. The Salon is free and open to the public. ■

American Jewry scholar Dash Moore to speak at JFS program

Laurie Cohen, special to the WJN

On Sunday, November 11, at Mediterano, (2900 S. State St.), at 3-5 p.m., Jewish Family Services will host Deborah Dash Moore, Frederick G. L. Huetwell Professor of History and Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. As an historian of American Jews, she has published an acclaimed trilogy examining the years from 1920 to 1960, including the experience of Jewish soldiers in World War II. As an historian of New York City, she served as general editor for the award-winning three-volume *City of Promises: A History of Jews in New York City*. Her most recent book, *Jewish New York: The Remarkable Story of a City and a People* (2017), synthesizes those three volumes.

Deborah Dash Moore

Currently Dash Moore is editor-in-chief of the ten-volume *Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization* published by Yale University Press.

Suggested donation to attend is $10/person, which includes the lecture and dessert, wine and coffee. ■

Rabbi Seid to speak on God-optional Judaism

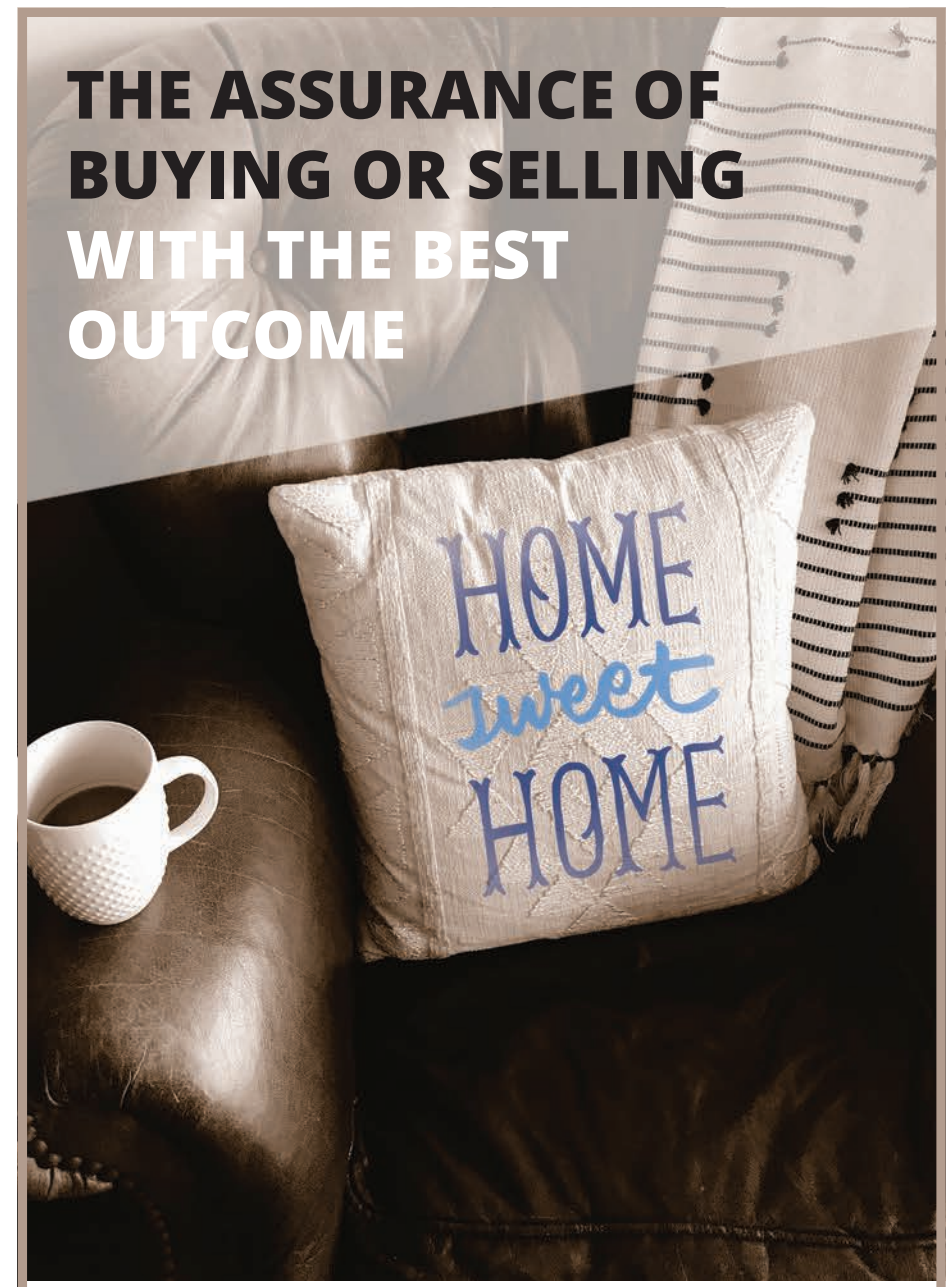
Barb Banet, special to the WJN

Rabbi Judith Seid, a dynamic leader of Ann Arbor's Jewish Cultural Society from 1984 through 1998, will return to Ann Arbor on Sunday, November 4, to talk about the Secular Humanistic Jewish movement and her recently revised book, *God-Optional Judaism: Alternatives for Cultural Jews Who Love Their History, Heritage and Community.* The event is part of the Jewish Community Center's 2018 Jewish Book Festival and will take place at the JCC, 10 a.m.–noon.

Rabbi Judith Seid

A lifelong secular Jew, Rabbi Seid was ordained by the International Institute of Secular Humanistic Judaism. She currently leads Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, a secular Jewish community in Pleasanton, California, in the East Bay area.

God-Optional Judaism is a handbook for Jews looking for creative and meaningful new ways to express their own way of being Jewish. It is geared towards those who express their Jewishness through a sense of community, a love of nature, a commitment to social justice, a celebration of Jewish history and culture and an ongoing evolution of Jewish identity, rather than through prayers and God-centered rituals. The book provides alternative, nontheistic ways to celebrate Jewish holidays and rites of passage. It includes a chapter on the historical diversity of the Jewish people, and answers questions about the Secular Humanistic Jewish movement. ■



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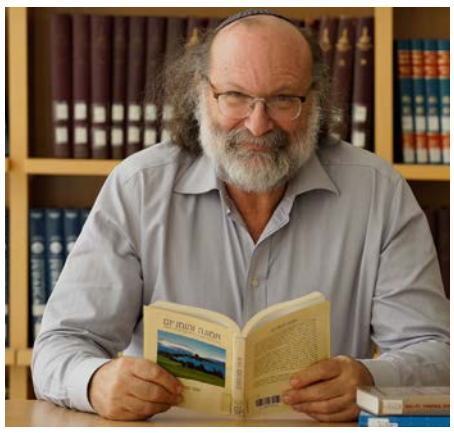
Frankel Center welcomes Padnos Visiting Professor in Judaic Studies Yossi Turner

Kelsey Robinette, special to the WJN

This fall semester Yossi (Joseph) Turner will be the Frankel Center's 30th Louis and Helen Padnos Visiting Professor in Judaic Studies. Turner is an associate professor at the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, where he has been teaching since 1995. The Padnos Visiting Professorship is made possible by a generous donation from Stuart Padnos, who in 1988 established the Professorship in commemoration of his parents, Helen and Louis Padnos. The Padnos endowment enables the Frankel Center to bring a distinguished scholar to campus every year to teach at the University of Michigan.



Yossi (Joseph) Turner

Turner will be giving two public lectures. The first will be in Ann Arbor on October 9 and is titled "The Concept of a Universal Humanity, Social Justice, and National Individuality in Modern Jewish Thought." The second, "The Crises Facing Jewish Existence in the Contemporary Period and their Educational Implications," will take place November 4 at Temple Emanuel in Grand Rapids.

Turner is a distinguished scholar of modern Jewish thought with particular expertise on the philosophy of the German Jewish theologian Franz Rosenzweig. He received his Ph.D. from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1994, and has since taught as a visiting professor at Haifa University, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, Queens College of the City University of New York, and Indiana University, in addition to his position at the renowned Schechter Institute. He has published two Hebrew-language books: the first on Rosenzweig's religious philosophy (*Faith and Humanism: A Study of Franz Rosenzweig's Religious Philosophy,* 2001) and the second on 20th-century Jewish thinking on Zion (*The Relation to Zion and the Diaspora in 20th Century Jewish Thought*, 2014). He has also edited several works on aspects of Jewish philosophy, most recently *The Actuality of Sacrifice*, in 2014. He has also published 30 articles on various aspects of the thought of Rosenzweig, Chaim Hirschenssohn, Martin Buber, Hermann Cohn, and other leading intellectuals of 20th-century Judaism.

"It is interesting, and often surprising, that Jewish thought and philosophy deal with universally human questions," Turner said, "but contemplates them from a uniquely Jewish perspective, which in many ways forms the basis of a critique concerning the West, while weighing conflicting concerns in ways not possible in other areas of Western discourse."

As Padnos Visiting Professor, Turner will be teaching two courses in the fall semester: Judaic 318: "Modern Jewish Thought" and JudaicStudies 417: "Trajectories of Zionist Thought". Turner most enjoys teaching classes about specific thinkers and philosophers, "because in such a course one can get at the depths and breadth of the subject matter, and reconstruct the manner in which a particular body of thought reflects the thinkers' life experience even as it enables me to trace the correspondence between problems and issues to which the thinker responds; his or her manner of expression and logic of argumentation, presuppositions; fundamental value orientation, and overall direction concerning various religious, social, and cultural issues."

While at U-M, Turner is looking forward to the class discussions with students. "The University of Michigan has a very high-quality student body," said Turner, "and I am always fascinated by the way the subject matter I deal with takes on new forms of discussion in differing social and cultural contexts." ■

U-M student bakes and sells challah to fight hunger on campus

Miriam Lipschutz, special to the WJN

University of Michigan sophomore Jordan Marcus is tackling food insecurity on campus as part of Challah for Hunger's Campus Hunger Project. Food insecurity—simply put, not knowing where one's next meal is coming from—is a nationwide issue affecting two-thirds of community college students and 4 in 10 students at four-year universities, as reported in the Wisconsin HOPE Lab's most recent national study. Michigan Senator Debbie Stabenow (D) commissioned a Government Accountability Office (GAO) study to further investigate the increasing problem of campus hunger. The report is expected to be published later this fall.

Jordan Marcus

Marcus, selling manager of U-M's Challah for Hunger chapter, has created a community resource guide to provide students experiencing food insecurity with information on where they can obtain free or cheap food in the area—such as the student-run food pantry, the Maize and Blue Cupboard, which offers monthly distributions of free produce and basic groceries on campus. However, this doesn't create a long-term solution for food insecurity. Creating the resource guide is the first step in a campus-specific campaign to increase opportunities to meet students' basic needs.

Local anti-hunger organization Food Gatherers reports nearly 14% of Washtenaw County residents are food insecure.

Marcus is a member of Challah for Hunger's 2018 Campus Hunger Project Cohort, a group of eleven students from ten different campuses participating in a year-long advocacy training program. Launched in 2016, the Campus Hunger Project is a national campaign focused on educating college students, faculty and administrators on the issue of food insecurity and implementing methods for combating it. Student chapters of Challah for Hunger bake and sell challah, traditional Jewish bread, and donate half of the proceeds to local food justice organizations.

"No student should have to choose between buying their textbooks and paying for food," said Miriam Lipschutz, Program Manager for the Campus Hunger Project. "Challah for Hunger is committed to supporting our student leaders in advocating for change on their campuses to help ensure neither they nor their peers experience lack of food as a barrier to succeeding in their education."

The resource guide includes information on the location of food pantries, available emergency aid funds and scholarships, and meal plan sharing or donation programs. While some of it is campus-specific, the guide is a useful resource for anyone in the broader Ann Arbor community who is food insecure.

Challah for Hunger is a national nonprofit organization that involves more than 10,000 youth annually in food justice activism and advocacy through 80 student-led, college-based chapters in 29 U.S. states, the U.K. and Australia. Volunteers gather to bake and sell challah, traditional Jewish bread. Fifty percent of profits are donated to anti-hunger organizations in each chapter's community, while the other half goes towards Challah for Hunger's national and philanthropic education partner, MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger. To date, Challah for Hunger has raised and donated over $1 million to these causes. For more information about Challah for Hunger, visit: challahforhunger.org. ■

Kosher dining in Ann Arbor

Stacy Carroll, special to the WJN

There are new changes in kosher dining coming to Ann Arbor. Beginning in October, Michigan Dining at the University of Michigan will be offering a variety of Kosher-certified menu items out of their new kosher-certified serving area. This area is located in South Quad, the newest of the MDining halls. Michigan Hillel was proud to provide guidance to MDining as they are continually evolving to meet student and campus-community needs.

Tilly Shames, executive director of Michigan Hillel, shared, "We are thrilled to see kosher options for students, faculty, staff and community expanding on campus. We see this as an opportunity for students to be able to access kosher meals without having to sacrifice the social experience of eating in the dorms with their friends. We are grateful to be working with the university to ensure students feel that their needs are met by Hillel during Shabbat and holidays when their kosher dining facility will be closed."

"This all came about because students talked to us about what they wanted, what they needed, and what would make campus feel more like home. That's what Michigan Dining is about," says Steve Mangan, director of Michigan Dining. "As we prepare for certification, we look forward to serving the community this October."

Michigan Dining has been working in close communication with Hillel and Chabad to make sure students and local organizations are aware of the changes. Rabbi Jared Anstandig, Rabbi Lisa Stella, Diane Redman Pfahler, and Tilly Shames of Hillel, and Rabbi Alter Goldstein from Chabad, have all been connected with the staff of the new kitchen. Certification for the South Quad Kosher Kitchen is being overseen by Rabbi Yosef Asayag from Seal-K. Seal-K is part of Rabbanut, a non-profit organization with the expressed mission to strengthen observance and to disseminate knowledge of Jewish law and its practical application. Seal-K adheres to the strict guidelines of *halachah* – Jewish Law for the purposes of certifying Kosher products and operations. Only items served out of the kosher kitchen will be certified. However, there are a variety of *pareve* options in all dining halls that may fit the needs of observing students.

Additionally, with the retirement of Rabbi Rod Glogower after three decades of service to Ann Arbor's Jewish community and Michigan Hillel, certification for the Hillel Cafe is being overseen by Rabbi Jared Anstandig. Rabbi Anstandig recently joined both Michigan Hillel and the Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan as rabbi of the Orthodox community. Michigan Hillel is also pleased to introduce its new head chef, Scott Griffith. Chef Scott comes to the Hillel Cafe with an extensive cooking background from positions with Blue Tractor BBQ & Brewery, Plum Market, the Alpha Phi sorority, and more. ■

Hillel Dining info and hours

The Hillel Cafe at Michigan Hillel (1429 Hill Street) will continue to operate for both students and community members. Dinner service, from 5–8 pm at $15 per person, will remain Monday–Thursday. Hillel's Friday Shabbat dinners, Saturday lunch and Saturday dinner during *seuda shlishit* will continue to be free for all students and $18 for community members. Hillel welcomes community members to register online or call the Hillel office before joining for Shabbat meals, while the regular weeknight dinners are open to drop-in and online ordering. Further pricing details, the daily menu, online ordering and catering options can be found at michiganhillel.org or by calling the office at (734) 769-0500.

ARTS AROUND TOWN

Presented by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor

JEWISH BOOK&ARTS FESTIVAL 2018

OCTOBER 18 - NOVEMBER 12

10/18 – 12/1 | Book and Gift Sale @ the J
Proceeds from the sale will support cultural arts programming.

All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

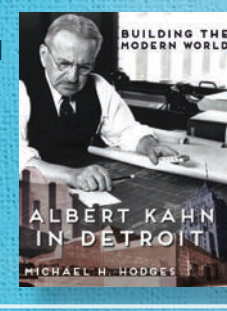
10/18 • 7 pm @ the J | Magen David Adom's Conversation with Alan Dershowitz
Join us for a moderated conversation with this outspoken lawyer, professor, and author. *$18/ticket. Purchase tickets at afmda.org/talk-with-alan.*

10/23 • 7:30pm @ U of M's Britton Hall | Yiddish-American Operetta Di Goldene Kale | Lecture Performance with special guest, Dr. Michael Ochs
Selections performed by U of M faculty and students.

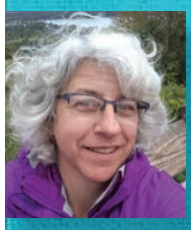
Di Goldene Kale (The Golden Bride) premiered in February of 1923 during the heyday of Yiddish theater. It is a rich sampling of the period – written and produced between the passing of two laws which reduced immigration from Eastern Europe to a trickle, one in 1921 and one in 1924. ***Sponsored by Alice Fishman and Michael Di Pietro***

10/25 • 6pm @ the J | Sponsor Dinner SPONSORS ONLY EVENT

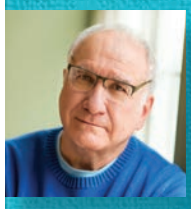
10/25 • 7pm @ the J | Building the Modern World: Albert Kahn in Detroit by Michael Hodges/Author Talk & Dessert Reception *(Free and open to public)*



Industrial architect Albert Kahn was a giant in Detroit's heroic age, the visionary who created the humane "daylight factories" for Packard Motor and Henry Ford, and helped birth both modern manufacturing and architecture. In this lecture/slideshow Hodges will present Kahn's legacy in the Motor City and Ann Arbor, as well as his role defending Diego Rivera's murals at the Detroit Institute of Arts against attack, and helping the Soviet Union push back the Nazis in 1941-42.



10/28 • 4pm @ the J | Leslie Sobel, Environmentalist Photographer/Gallery Reception
One year ago, Leslie Sobel boarded a single-engine plane in the Canadian Yukon bound for the remote Eclipse Icefield. The lone artist in a group of two climate scientists and two grad students, she spent eight days at altitude on the glacier in the St. Elias Mountains. She took 5,000 photographs, journaled, and helped with the work of the camp. Meet the artist and take a photographic journey to one of the largest non-polar ice fields on earth.



10/30 • 7 pm @ Literati | Harvey Ovshinsky Presents The Man Who Saw Tomorrow/Presentation

Harvey Ovshinsky explores the life of his father Stanford Ovshinsky, whose innovations in information technology continue to impact our world today. Called "the Edison of our age" by the Economist, Stanford was awarded over 400 patents and was the subject of the biography "*The Man Who Saw Tomorrow*" by Lillian Hoddeson and Peter Garrett.

11/1 • 7pm @ EMU Student Center Ballroom | A Conversation with Lisa Kron /Presentation
Lisa Kron, playwright and Tony award winner for the show "Fun Home," talks with Jessica "Decky" Alexander, Theater Professor at Eastern Michigan University during this "actor's studio" style evening. ***Sponsored by Eastern Michigan University Center for Jewish Studies***

11/ 4 • 10am @ the J | God-Optional Judaism: Alternatives for Cultural Jews Who Love Their History by Judy Seid/Author Talk
Judy Seid is a graduate of the Rabbinic and Cantorial programs of the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism and holds a master's degree in Jewish Communal Studies from Hebrew Union College. She directed the Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society for many years. ***Sponsored by Jewish Cultural Society***

11/ 4 • 4pm @ the J | Irene Butter in Conversation with Ken Fischer/Presentation
Shores Beyond Shores: From Holocaust to Hope: My True Story is a memoir by Irene Hasenberg Butter, co-authored by John Bidwell and Kris Holloway. A testament to the endurance and triumph of the human spirit, it tells the story of Irene and her family before and during the Holocaust. ***Sponsored by Temple Beth Emeth***

11/ 8 • 7pm @ the J | Golem: Modern Wars and Their Monsters by Maya Barzilai/Presentation
Maya Barzilai, assistant professor of Hebrew Culture and Jewish Literature at the University of Michigan, examines representations of the Golem legend in 20th and early 21st century literature and film. ***Sponsored by Beth Israel Congregation***

11/12 • 7pm@ the Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty The Yellow Ticket/Presentation and Film Screening
$50/$25/$15 based on proximity to the stage. *Purchase tickets at michtheater.org/the-yellow-ticket. Sponsors may attend at no charge but must RSVP in advance. The Yellow Ticket* is a rare 1918 silent film starring Pola Negri, who would later become the femme fatale of the silent film era. It tells the story of a young Jewish woman from a Polish shtetl constrained by anti-Semitic restrictions to lead a double life in a brothel while attempting to study medicine in Tsarist Russia. As the film plays, renowned klezmer violinist/vocalist/composer Alicia Svigals will perform the original score she composed for the film live along with Toronto's virtuoso new-music pianist Marilyn Lerner. Svigals is the world's foremost klezmer fiddler, a founder of the Grammy-winning Klezmatics, and a 2014 NEA MacDowell Fellow in composition.

REGISTRATION: To register for events, unless otherwise noted, visit book.jccannarbor.org and click on "tickets" at the upper right side of your screen. All events will be held @ the J, 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, unless otherwise noted.

For more information, call (734) 971-0990 or visit book.jccannarbor.org.

JCC 35th anniversary celebration to honor founders and present archive

Clara Silver, special to the WJN

On Sunday, April 14, 2019, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will invite the entire community to celebrate its 35th anniversary at a special event honoring its founders with

the opening of an archive exhibition and published history. Inspired by JCC founders, Charles and Sharon Newman, and curated by local history aficionado, Fran Martin, the archive exhibition will be the culmination of over a year of research. Martin has completed writing the history and is in the process of publishing it, and will complete an interactive exhibit for the April 14 event. The Newmans and Martin are working together to connect with the organization's founders. Some remained in or moved back to the Ann Arbor area, while some moved away.

The event is in the early planning stages, but there is already excitement building. Chuck plans to be the evening's emcee, and says he is looking forward to, "encouraging founders to share their stories and recollections about the founding of the JCC." "We are holding this event to celebrate the foresight and commitment of the many who laid the foundation which made the last 35 years possible," he added.

The Newmans, Martin, and current Executive Director David Stone, believe this event is a special opportunity to bring the community together. Stone notes, "The Ann Arbor JCC has come a long way from its humble beginnings, and now serves the community in so many ways. We've become the neighborhood pre-school, the go-to summer day camp, the hub of large-scale Jewish cultural programming like Arts Around Town and the Ann Arbor Jewish Film Festival. All of this started 35 years ago with Chuck and Sharon's vision and their unique ability to bring people together to execute a vision."

It is hoped that the event will bring the community together to reflect on the organization's dynamic past and look to the future. The Newmans' vision for the event includes raising funds to help off-set the organization's coming mortgage balloon payment, and prepare the organization to execute the future vision that is being created now by the current board of directors, staff, organization members, and broader Jewish community.

For more information on the archive, published history, or 35th anniversary event, call (734) 971-0990 or visit jccannarbor.org where event details will be posted as they become available. ■

JOIN Internship reflections on my time with Michigan Hillel

By Margo Dickstein

When I was trying to figure out what I would do the summer after my freshman year at the University of Michigan, I did not immediately think of the JOIN Internship (Jeanette and Oscar Cook Jewish Occupational Internship Program). As a political science and international studies major, I assumed I would be getting an internship somewhere like the United Nations, AIPAC, or one of the many political races gearing up for the November Midterms. I assumed, like all of the leadership opportunities and jobs I had applied for in high school, I would easily be able to get a prestigious internship in my field of study. By January however, reality was right there staring me in the face. Everyone was looking for students with experience — those who could write well, manage large amounts of data, take initiative, and have think-outside-of-the-box skills. I, with my whopping one year of college under my belt, seemed to lack those at first resume glance. I had resigned myself to a summer of babysitting, tutoring, or working at a clothing store.

Then, one email changed everything. The February Mich-Mash, University of Michigan Hillel's weekly email run-down of programs and opportunities coming up around Ann Arbor and beyond. It was there that I was introduced to JOIN — and off to an amazing summer with Hillel, its staff, and lots of connection with the Class of 2022's incoming students.

The JOIN program is an eight-week internship coordinated by Jewish Vocational Services of Metro Detroit. Started and partially funded by the Cook family, the JOIN program seeks to engage college-aged Jewish students with Metro Detroit Jewish communal organizations in the hopes that their experience will empower future leaders of the area's Jewish community. The program also educates the participants on the wide variety and diversity of programming and services offered within the Jewish community.

A special component of JOIN is that each Friday is utilized as a seminar day, in which participants travel to different agencies within the area to learn about the services they provide, what it takes to maintain those services, and how they strive to achieve their missions. To me, this was one of the most meaningful parts of the program. I have grown up in the Metro Detroit Jewish community all of my life. I went to Hebrew school at a local synagogue, worked as a *madrichia* at my Hebrew school, and served as president of my local BBYO chapter.

While I thought I was well-versed in what it meant to live in what local teens commonly call "the bubble," I never knew about the various agencies such as Jewish Family Serivces, JVS, and Kadima, that were offering essential services and care to members of the community that I had been a part of my whole life. Getting to learn about these agencies and the support they require from the community in order to keep them going, deeply affected and inspired me to work hard so that I am able to give back to the community that provided so much not only to me, but to countless others.

This spark that I got from the weekly seminars pushed me to do the best that I could with my internship at Michigan Hillel. It made my hour and a half commute each day worth it. Since starting school at the U-M, my Jewish community has not changed, but grown, to include both the Detroit and Ann Arbor area. Michigan Hillel became my home away from home. I joined multiple Hillel-supported groups, attended their weekly, free Shabbat dinners, and gained close relationships to staff. Through the JOIN internship program, I have gotten to know Michigan Hillel from a completely different angle than others student leader. I saw the long hours the staff put into planning great programs — that I had no idea took so much effort. They work so hard to welcome each incoming student and their family, plan immersive experiences like their new Overnight Retreat, Welcome to Campus Dinners, Meet & Greet across the country, and their *Mensch* mentorship program. Not to mention all the planning they put into preparing for 1,500+ students to join them for the High Holidays! Plus, they take the time to thank each and every one of Hillel's generous donors with a personal thank you note. It was amazing to be an active part of the care and consideration staff puts into ensuring that every aspect of Hillel programming is inclusive, accessible, and meaningful to students.

As an intern at Hillel, I got to play an active role in welcoming U-M's 1,000 new incoming Jewish students into our community, making personal calls, sending text invites, and ensuring we have all the right info in our database so we can continue to communicate throughout the year. I also got a hands-on role in planning the logistics for their first-year students Overnight Retreat, taking place at Camp

Tamarack. The biggest highlight though of my work at Hillel was joining a meeting at the Federation of Metropolitan Detroit in which Hillel staff shared great updates on all that's going on and new with JFMD senior staff. I got to not only listen, but participate too, in conversations about ways in which staff are working to grow relationship between the Federation and Hillel. It was amazing to hear how passionate the Federation is in providing support for Michigan Hillel and continuing to help them open new doors.

The JOIN internship program has opened my eyes to what it means to be a part of the Metro Detroit Jewish community, as well as what it takes to create a meaningful Jewish space for students. While I don't know where my career will take me after college, I know that the Detroit Jewish community and Michigan Hillel will always be there for me, and in return, I will always be there for them. ■

ORT opening event

Joan Levitt, special to the WJN

The Ann Arbor chapter of ORT America will hold its Fall event, "Desserts of Colombia," on Sunday, October 7, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., at the home of Patti Aaron. Members and prospective members are invited to attend.

The event will highlight Colegio Colombo Hebreo in Bogotá, which was recently added to the ORT global network as an affiliated school. The new ORT affiliation will benefit the school from academic and pedagogical perspectives

and enhance its prestige in the local community. Founded in 1968, Colegio Colombo Hebreo is highly ranked in Colombia and is the main source of Jewish education in the Bogotá Jewish community. The new ORT affiliation will make ORT programs available to its students, provide increased training for teachers, and improve the school's ability to provide science, technology engineering and math (STEM) education.

Dr. Goldy Mazia, alumna of Colegio Colombo Hebreo, will speak about "Growing Up Jewish in Colombia." Dr. Mazia is a Newborn Health Advisor for USAID's Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP) based in Washington, DC. Dr. Mazia has been the newborn health advisor for MCSP's Zika virus response team since 2017.

The Fall Event provides an opportunity to learn about ORT America's important work supporting World ORT's schools and high-tech training programs. The event also provides an opportunity to meet old and new friends and to learn about the Ann Arbor chapter's activities, including the popular Book Group. For more information about ORT Ann Arbor, check the website, www.ortannarbor.org.

For many students, ORT training is their transition to a satisfying career. For the 300,000 students ORT serves annually in over 37 countries, an ORT education makes all the difference.

A suggested donation of $10 will help support ORT. Rides are available if needed. Rsvp to Gretta Spier, a2gretta@mac.com by October 1. ■

A celebration for women — a Siyyum of Torah

Lonnie Sussman, special to the WJN

What does once a week for 35 years have to do with Tea and Torah on Tuesdays? Yes, that's how long Esther Goldstein has opened her home and many hearts and minds to the importance of studying Torah. Over the years, women of various backgrounds and levels of knowledge have come together to learn from our foundational book of wisdom, Rashi, other great commentators and from each other.

On Shabbat the weekly Torah portion is read with seven divisions or aliyot. The TTT (Tea and Torah on Tuesdays) reads and studies one Aliyah each week. The seventh or final Aliyah in each of the Torah portions was studied. So, after seven years, the entire Torah has been read.

Traditionally this achievement is celebrated with a festive meal along with some Torah learning of the final line of Torah and the first line of Torah. It is a time to mark an end and the beginning of a new round of learning.

Join other women for this celebration on October 30, at 7–9 p.m., at the home of Esther Goldstein for a light dinner and learning. No previous experience needed. RSVP to Esther@jewmich.com. ■

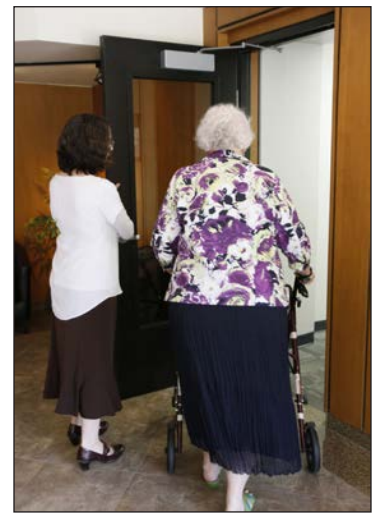
JFS Older Adult Services offers support

Julia Kessler Hollar, special to the WJN

Josephine, an 81-year-old independent woman, was living on her own when she tripped while walking down several stairs and found her life changed as she was unable to physically take care of herself as she had until then. Unexpectedly she found she could no longer drive and she became dependent on others to take her to appointments and the store. "I asked my neighbor if she knew anyone who could help me and I found out about Jewish Family Services' Older Adult Services Department," she said. "I called on a Tuesday and spoke to someone and that same week, a social worker came to visit me in my home. After she left, I was enrolled in the transportation services where they come to my door to help me when I need to go to a medical appointment. I was relieved to be all set!"

Unfortunately, after her fall, Josephine's health began to decline as on-going medical conditions began to make it more challenging for Josephine to be able to care for herself independently in her own home. First she turned to her daughter who lives in the same town, however her daughter was not able to come in the mornings when she felt she needed the most assistance, with showering, dressing, and helping provide breakfast and ensure her medications were taken as prescribed. When her daughter would come at the end of her workday, Josephine was often in her clothes from the previous day and had forgotten to take her medications. Her daughter, Elizabeth, soon realized that her mother was in need of more support than could be provided by herself alone. Elizabeth, having heard her mother discuss JFS before, contacted the same social worker who had visited several months prior and expressed her concerns.

"My stress level decreased greatly after talking to her," Elizabeth reported regarding her conversation with the JFS social worker. "She truly listened to my concerns, and what my mother needed as well as what she wanted, and together we found an agency who has a homecare worker who cares for my mother and keeps her company a few days a week. I still come to see her almost every day but I worry less knowing she has someone else there. I did not even know where to begin to find a home care agency like this and JFS helped point us in the right direction."



Josephine also noticed that she needed additional assistance in her medical appointments, after coming home from a follow up appointment with her primary care physician, and not remembering an answer to a question she asked. Josephine spoke to her social worker and was enrolled in the Partners in Care Concierge program through JFS. This program paired Josephine with a trained volunteer to support her before, during, and after her medical appointments, as well as take notes and assist Josephine in having all her medical questions answered during her next visits with her doctors. "Now when I cannot remember what my doctor said to me, I can take a look at the form from my volunteer which has a list of all the questions I asked and the answers. I can just listen to my doctor and talk to her now. I don't have to worry about what I will do if I can't remember what she said! My volunteer and PiCC help do that for me!"

"My mother had not mentioned to me that she didn't feel like she had enough money to buy groceries when she truly needed them. I wasn't sure what to do," said Elizabeth. On a fixed income, Josephine had another week until her next month Social Security check was deposited into her account and she would then ask Elizabeth to take her to the store. The following week, after contacting JFS, the social worker assisted Josephine in enrolling in the monthly food delivery provided to homebound older adults through JFS. Through the food delivery program, Josephine receives several bags of food each month, including fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, and dairy products, as well as other foods that are compliant with her dietary needs prescribed by her primary care physician. "They even bring me chocolate Ensure!" Josephine stated, "My doctor told me to supplement my meals with it, but it is expensive and I cannot afford to buy it all the time. Through JFS, I now drink it more often. It's like dessert!"

Jewish Family Services was recently awarded a Thome grant that greatly expands their Older Adult Services for those ages 60+ in need of support in Washtenaw County. With this significant increase in funding, the Older Adult Services department will be able to serve additional older adults who benefit from care management, in-home counseling, food delivery and supplemental nutrition program, as well as support door-through-door transportation services.

JFS will also implement an innovative in home support services program to provide respite care relief to caregivers in need. Through this new service, JFS will expand its capacity to connect clients with resources, advocacy and access to benefits. JFS trained social workers will continue to create care plans with older adults that support their goal of aging in their own home. In-home services will continue to include delivering homebound older adults with nutritious food, and will begin to assist older adults and caregivers in obtaining necessary respite care and in home support. Thome grant funding will directly support JFS' ability to provide needed nutritional supplements, such as Ensure and Boost, to many homebound older adults for whom the direct cost of these is prohibitive.

In-home counseling services are essential for many homebound older adults, but are not offered or paid by Michigan Medicaid and very few providers offer this provision. This increased funding will expand the capacity of JFS therapists to provide counseling support for those unable to come to the office for counseling. For older adults who are able to leave their homes, this funding ensures JFS will continue to be able to offer door-through-door transportation, for medical appointments through Partners in Care Concierge or other necessary appointments in the community. ■

Third Thursday @ the J welcomes speakers from Michigan and Israel

Rachael Hoffenblum, special to the WJN

Michigan State Representative Yousef Rabhi will visit the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Third Thursday @ the J at noon on Thursday, October 18, for an afternoon of lunch and conversation. Representative Rabhi is a Washtenaw County native and alumnus of Ann Arbor Public Schools. Before becoming State Representative he served three terms on the County Board of Commissioners, and has served on nearly 20 different boards and committees.

Yousef Rabhi

On Thursday, November 15, at noon, the Israel Center @ the J and Third Thursday @ the J will jointly present Hadas Fuchs, a researcher from the Taub Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel, as a special live-stream direct from her office in Israel. The Taub Center for Social Policy Studies is an independent, nonpartisan, socioeconomic research institute that researches social and economic factors in Israel and dialogues with policy makers. Fuchs' presentation will address the "Picture of the Nation" booklets published by the Taub Center and available in advance at the J. The publication highlights a year of research in areas that include demographics, economics, welfare, healthcare, education, and employment. The Israel Center @ the J provides opportunities for individuals to engage with Israel thoughtfully and respectfully, together as a community.

Hadas Fuchs

All Third Thursday @ the J presentations are free of charge and open to the public. Advance registration is appreciated. Participants are welcome to bring their own dairy, nut-free lunch, or purchase a lunch from the J's Lunch Café. Those who plan to purchase lunch must reserve it at least one day in advance. The Lunch Café menu is catered by local chef Karan Balmer and is available at jccannarbor.org. To reserve a space or lunch at the Café, or to learn more about Third Thursday @ the J or the weekly Tuesday/Thursday Lunch Café, contact Rachael Hoffenblum, operations manager and adult program coordinator, at rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org or (734) 971-0990. ■

JCC Lunch Café and Adult Program adds Wednesday activities

Rachael Hoffenblum, special to WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will expand its Lunch Café and adult daytime program offerings to three days per week. Currently, its noon Lunch Café operates Tuesdays and Thursdays, but as of October 10, it will add Wednesdays as well. The Lunch Café has seen an increase in popularity and attendance, serving as a social connection for retiree and twilight career adults in the area as well as those new to Ann Arbor. Local caterer Karan Balmer provides a varied lunch menu that is always meat-free and nut-free. Currently lunch costs $5.50 per lunch, however, those 60 and over can choose to receive a special reduced price of $3 per lunch due to special funding provided to the JCC from the Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development.

As part of the new Wednesday Lunch Café, the JCC will host weekly film screenings beginning at 12:30 p.m. Adults who attend Wednesdays will have the opportunity to participate in selecting the films to be screened in future weeks. Wednesday afternoon also includes Tai Chi for Seniors, a class that is free for paid members and offered in partnership with the Washtenaw Community College community education program.

Third Thursday @ the J will continue to offer a wide variety of speakers and performers during the Lunch Café on the third Thursday of each month. In addition, the JCC will continue to offer a variety of recurring program options on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Low Impact Exercise is a class offered both Tuesday and Thursday mornings that combines elements of balance, strength, and Tai Chi. On Thursdays, Heather Dombey continues to moderate a Current Events discussion group after lunch. Various fitness classes are offered Monday through Friday mornings, and the Yiddish Readers group meets each Friday. Evening activities include weekly Wednesday Israeli Dancing and Thursday Yoga classes.

All the programs, classes, and Lunch Café are open to the entire community.

For more information, to reserve lunch (at least one day in advance), contact Rachael Hoffenblum, operations manager and adult programs coordinator, at (734) 971-0990 or rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org. ■

The Federation's Annual Campaign: fostering and sustaining Jewish communal life

By Sharyn J. Gallatin, Financial Resource Development Director

To help a fellow man may be to tip the scales for the entire world." – *Talmud, Kiddushin 40:2*

The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor's 2019 Annual Campaign kicked off last month with an event to motivate and support campaign volunteers as they begin the New Year by offering their fellow Jews an opportunity to do a mitzvah – to foster and sustain Jewish life in our community and around the world through a gift to the Annual Community Campaign. The guest speaker, former Federation Executive Director Jeff Levin, provided the participants with valuable tools to effectively and comfortably communicate how we can connect, ignite and inspire our community through our communal campaign.

There is no greater mitzvah than asking one Jew to ask a second Jew to help a third. Participating in the Federation campaign enables campaign volunteers *and* donors to join together in a communal effort aimed at maximizing the community's strengths and ensuring that no Jew in distress falls through the cracks, no need goes unaddressed, and no one is left out in the cold.

The Federation Annual Community Campaign supports Jewish communal engagement through rich educational programs for people of all ages, from tots in the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Early Childhood Center to elementary school pupils in the joyful learning community of Hebrew Day School. Children in our synagogue religious schools benefit from their teachers receiving creative professional development through the Jewish Educator's Council.

The Federation Annual Community Campaign enriches us by offering Jews from across the religious spectrum a welcoming home in which to express their Jewish observance and to gather together as one people. The eruv — which makes Ann Arbor a more tenable destination for Orthodox Jews — strengthens us all by bringing greater diversity and involvement to our community. Community-wide events, such as the JCC's Book Fair and Film Festival, the Main Event, and our energetic Israel at 70 celebrations enable us to join neighbors and friends representing the tapestry of Jewish observance and involvement to enjoy a wide range of cultural offerings.

The Federation Annual Community Campaign helps make it possible for us — as a community — to help those in need. From Jewish Family Services (JFS) offering our senior citizens assistance enabling them to age in place or experience the comfort and familiarity of Jewish life in new surroundings to the Joint Distribution Committee's (JDC) Welfare Relief in the Former Soviet Union, we ensure that the most vulnerable among us live lives of meaning and dignity. And, our caring extends beyond the Jewish community through our support of, for example, JFS's efforts to settle refugees in Ann Arbor and the Jewish Agency for Israel's (JAFI) programs aimed at promoting equal rights and opportunities for all of Israel's citizens.

The Federation Annual Community Campaign provides opportunities for us to connect meaningfully with Israel. Through our Partnership2Gether relationship with Moshav Nahalal and experiences it offers — such as the Student Exchange, Women's Experience in Israel, school twinning and family visits — Ann Arborites of all ages develop significant, personal connections with Israelis and are able to explore the complexities of Israeli society while maintaining a warm relationship with its people. Our *Yom Ha'atzmaut* (Israel Independence Day) events and Israel-related speakers offer people of all ages a way to celebrate and engage in a deeper way with the Jewish state.

You have an opportunity to be a part of making all of the above possible and so much more.

What we can accomplish together

In 2018, together we demonstrated our commitment to the community and its future by growing our communal giving. Because of your generosity, we were able to increase the camp scholarship fund, which will enable greater numbers of Jewish children to attend Jewish summer camp, one of a very few transformative experiences that have been demonstrated to influence future Jewish involvement.

We were able to increase allocations to our local agencies, providing them with more resources to accomplish their missions and offer even more programs and services to engage and strengthen Jewish communal life.

We were able to make a greater difference in Israeli civil society by increasing funding to projects and organizations, such as Hand in Hand Schools and the Israel Religious Expression Platform, that share our values of religious pluralism, equal rights for all Israelis and support for vulnerable populations.

Together, we can build on this success and do even more!

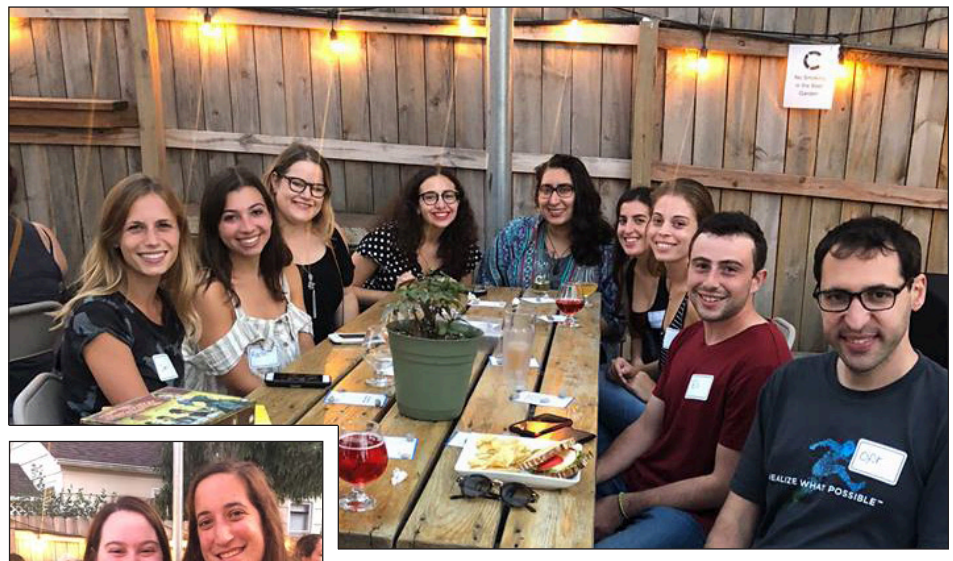
This year, when a Federation Annual Community Campaign volunteer contacts you, I hope you will agree to meet them for coffee, have a Jewish conversation about your hopes and dreams for our community, and thank them for doing a mitzvah by giving you the opportunity to make a difference by supporting our community. Together we are powerful! We ALL have the ability to Connect, Ignite and Inspire!

For more information or to make a pledge, visit www.jewishannarbor.org or contact Sharyn Gallatin at (734) 677-0100, ext. 228 or sharyn@jewishannarbor.org. ■

Jewish Young Professional fall kickoff

Claudia Halpern, special to the WJN

Ann Arbor's Jewish Young Professionals (JYP) kicked off the new year with a two-part series called "New-Ish and Jewish," a combination of bar/coffee/game nights. Over 100 people participated, including recent arrivals to Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti, people who've been in the area for some time or returned after an absence, and those seeking to re-discover the city. "New-ish and Jewish" part one took place at Cultivate Coffee and Tap House, and part two took place at Bar Louie. JYP participants are excited for a successful year full of creative, cultural, social and fun programming. Want to get involved? Contact Claudia Halpern, Outreach and Program coordinator at the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor at Claudia@jewishannarbor.org or (734) 677-0100, ext 227. For more information, visit www.jewishannarbor.org or the Jewish Young Professionals of Ann Arbor on Facebook. ■



Torah life and material life

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, special to the WJN

On Shabbat, October 6 we will be starting the readings of the Torah from the beginning, the book of Genesis.

There is a famous expression among Chabad rabbis throughout many generations that the Shabbat when we read the beginning of the Torah has an effect on the entire year ahead. A person's conduct on this particular Shabbat sets the tone for the entire upcoming year. Why is this particular Shabbat so important that it has such important implications? There are other important days in the calendar that might seem more appropriate to affect the entire year ahead — such as Shavuot. This holiday commemorates the giving of the whole, entire Torah. Wouldn't this be more significant than merely the initial, single Parsha? Furthermore, there are other portions in the Torah that speak about commandments that are more fundamental to our daily life throughout the year than merely telling us the story of creation. So what is so special about this Parsha on Shabbat Bereshis at the very beginning of the reading of the Torah?

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein

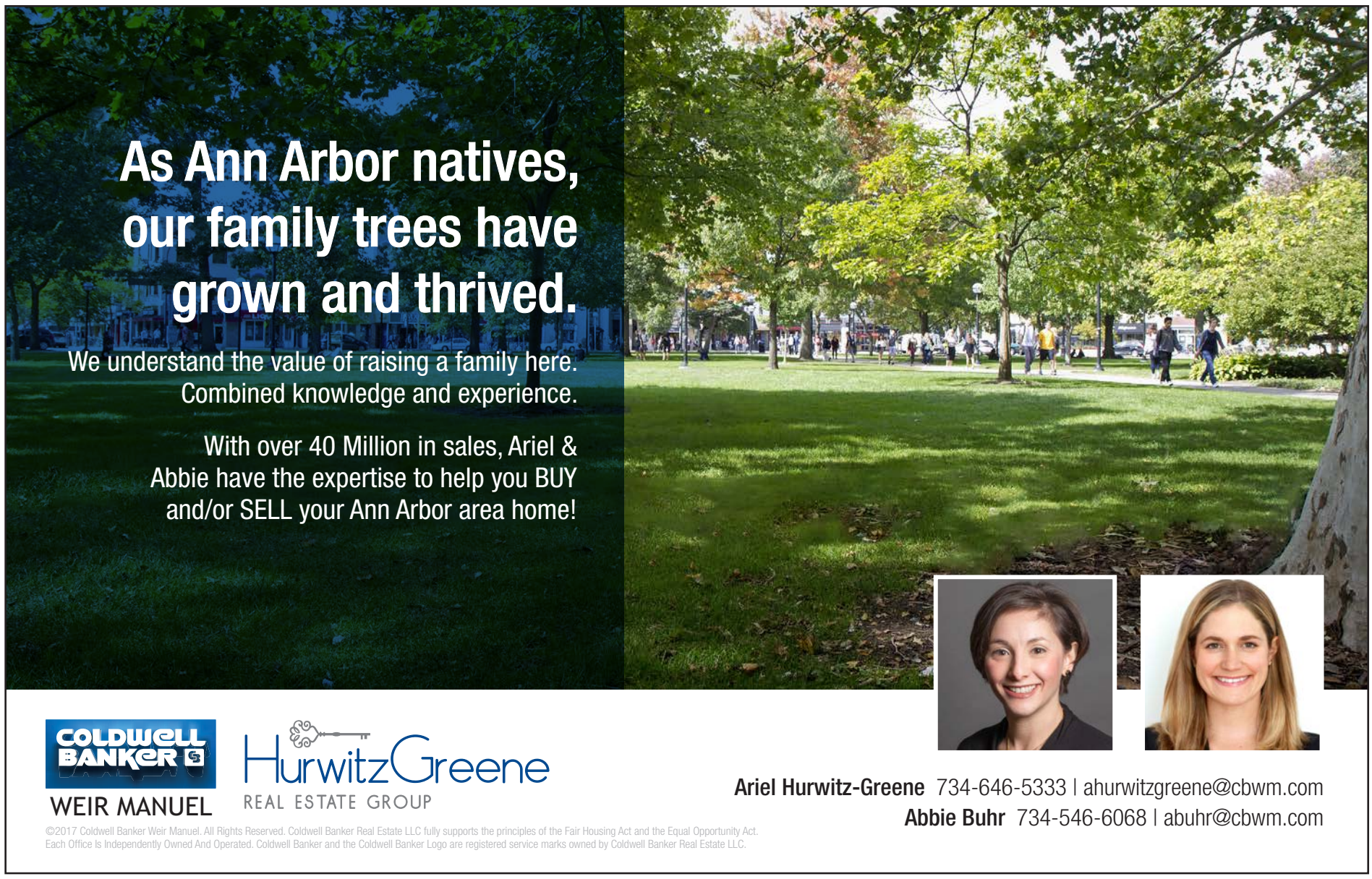
The special nature of the first Parsha of the Torah is that it describes the act of Creation. The fact that we are made aware of the act of Creation and we reflect upon the act of Creation and its meaning, is a foundation in our service to God throughout the entire year. The more a Jew understands and internalizes the meaning of God creating the world, makes it easier for a person to serve God during the rest of the year. The fact that we know and believe that the whole of Creation came through God helps us throughout the year in our divine service.

So how does this narrative of the Creation begin? "In the beginning God created the heavens and earth". A great commentator on the Torah, the Ramban, Nachmanides, tells us that the fact that the Torah uses the phrase " God created…," means that God created something from nothing. This means that before Creation nothing existed. There was only nothing. It was from this nothing that God created the world. This concept of creating something from nothing is something very unique regarding this world. There is nothing else in existence in the world that is something from nothing. In this world, things are created from other things - something from something. For example, a cup is formed from gold or another material already in existence. Creating something from nothing is unique to God's creation of the world. In order that this world should not only be created but should remain in existence and not revert back to nothingness, God has to constantly keep creating the world at every moment. Exactly as it was the first time. If God were to stop the process of creating the world for even a moment, the world would cease existing.

The Alter Rebbe, in his book The Tanya, explains that understanding the verse in Psalms 119:89, the words from God that were used to create the world are eternal and in effect constantly. God's words of creation have to be there constantly in order for the creation to remain in existence. So what do we deduce from this? That the true existence of the world is all dependent on the constant utterance of God's words of its creation. The world has no intrinsic way of existing independently except for the words of God. The world only exists because the words of God, at every moment, make it exist.

The words of God are the true existence of the world. Once we understand this concept and recognize that the world's existence is dependent on the words of God, we can understand why the Shabbat on which we read the first portion of the Torah describing God's creation of the universe is so central a theme in Judaism because this gives a person the right understanding of and attitude toward the world. When a person goes through life they confront normal challenges and difficulties. One of these challenges is the fact that a person has to be successful working with the world and at the same time has to apply the principles of Torah to their life. Sometimes there seems to be a contradiction between trying to live a life according to Torah and at the same time to be successful at making a living. So the Torah tells us emphatically - don't worry about it! In the beginning God created the world. The entire existence of the world is based on the ten utterances of God that is written in the Torah. The Torah also says that God is our God and that we should fulfill all of God's Torah Mitzvahs. Therefore, it's impossible to say that there is any contradiction between the demands made by Torah and the demands made by making a living in the world. Because the whole world was created by God it cannot, in any way, impede a person in their fulfillment of a Mitzvah.

Not only on Shabbat Bereshis, but throughout the entire year, when a person has to "make it" in the real world, if they believe in this concept that the world is created by God, they will not find their work in the world in any way a contradiction to observing Torah. On the contrary, even when they are in the midst of their work, navigating through life in this physical world, they can, at the same time, be fully functional in Torah observance. This is the particularly important lesson that we learn from Parsha Bereshis. If we start off the new year with this proper attitude, we can function for the whole year in a materially successful way being alive and healthy and at the same time successfully carrying out our spiritual mission. There is no contradiction between the two. ■



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Thursday, October 18, 2018

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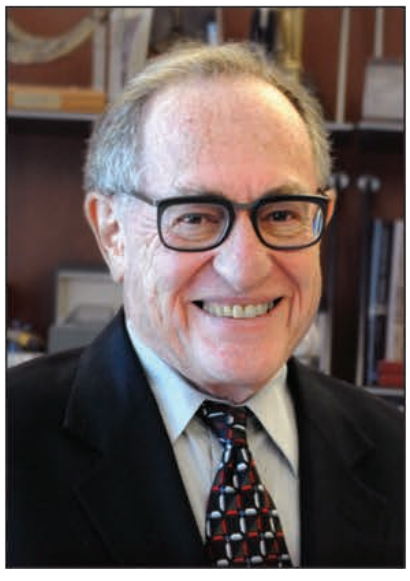

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Events at the Jewish Cultural Society

Barb Banet, special to the WJN

First Friday Shabbat at the Jewish Cultural Society

Friday, October 5. 6:30-9 p.m.

The JCS First Friday Shabbat, held at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor, includes secular Jewish readings, singing, candle lighting, challah and wine rituals, and a Yahrtzeit observance to remember loved ones. After the Shabbat observance, the community shares a catered dinner from a local restaurant. Free for JCS members; $10/person or $25/family for nonmembers. Register at jewishculturalsociety.org. For more information: (734) 975-9872 or info@jewishculturalsociety.org.

First Friday Shabbat and "Your Oldest Jewish Thing"

Friday, November 2, Service and dinner at 6:30 p.m., interactive program following dinner at 7:45 p.m.

As part of the Jewish Cultural Society's First Friday Shabbat on November 2, former JCS Executive Director Judith Seid will lead an event called "Your Oldest Jewish Thing." Judy describes it as an interesting interactive evening of Jewish history and culture. After a short secular Shabbat observance, led by the JCS Madrikha Julie Gales, and a catered dinner from a local restaurant, participants will be asked to show the oldest Jewish object in their home (that they brought to the event). After they describe the object's history and what it means to them, Seid will add cultural and historical context to the discussion. Registration is requested: (734) 975-9872, info@jewishculturalsociety.org or www.jewishculturalsociety.org. There is no charge for dinner for members of JCS; $10 is the suggested donation for non-members (or $25/family). Those who prefer to come after dinner for the interactive event may come at 7:45 p.m. All are welcome to attend, including children. ■

Beth Israel Congregation October activities

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Simchat Torah and the International Shul of Pancakes

Erev Simchat Torah and Torah Processionals, Monday, October 1, 6:45 p.m.
Simchat Torah Morning Service, Tuesday, October 2: Shaharit and Hallel services, 8:30 a.m.; International Shul of Pancakes Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.; Torah Service and Hakafot (Torah Processional,) 10:15 a.m.

Erev Simchat Torah includes a Maariv Service that is followed by the Simchat Torah Hakafot (family friendly Torah processionals,) dancing, and snacks.

On Simchat Torah morning after the Shaharit and Hallel services, Beth Israel provides a free pancake breakfast in the Social Hall, followed by the Hakafot, the Torah processionals, and the rest of the service. Simchat Torah celebrates and marks the conclusion of the annual cycle of public Torah readings, and the beginning of a new cycle

The main celebrations of Simchat Torah take place in the synagogue during evening and morning services. In Orthodox and Conservative congregations, this is the only time of year on which the Torah scrolls are taken out of the ark and read at night. In the morning, the last section of Deuteronomy and the first section of Genesis are read in the synagogue.

Baby Shabbat

Saturday, October 6, 9:30 a.m.

The newest members to the congregation – those children born over the past Jewish year – are welcomed into the congregation. The Torah reading is Bereishit – "In the Beginning" – a perfect parasha (a section of the Torah read on Shabbat) for this joint event. A kiddush luncheon follows the service.

New Member Shabbat service and dinner

Friday, September 12. Service, 6 p.m., dinner, 7 p.m.

New members of Beth Israel are welcomed into the congregation at this Friday evening service, followed by a traditional Shabbat meal of chicken or vegetarian alternative. The community is invited to spend a Shabbat evening on this occasion at Beth Israel. $18 per adults ages 13 and up, $10 for children ages 4 – 12 years old, and children 3 and younger are free. RSVPs and payments are required by Oct. 15. Online sign-up at Beth Israel's website www.bethisrael-aa.org, under Event Signup. (New members from the past two years are invited at no charge. They should rsvp to the office at 665-9897 or office@bethisrael-aa.org.)

Tot Shabbat and mini minyan

Saturdays, October 13 and October 27, 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat is Beth Israel's fun Shabbat morning program for preschoolers and their parents with songs, stories, and prayers, plus the Shabbat "Mystery Box." Tot Shabbat is led by Beth Israel's Program Director, Sarah Klein, and Davey Rosen, the Beth Israel Experiential Educator

Mini-Minyan is Beth Israel's service for elementary school age children. The service includes Shabbat prayers and fun educational activities. The children will join the main congregation for the final prayers in the Sanctuary. For more information contact Sarah Klein at sklein@bethisrael-aa.org.

Both of these programs are, free drop-in events open to non-members as well as to members of Beth Israel.

Environmental responsibility at the municipal level

Sunday, October 21, 7:45 p.m.

In a joint offering by Beth Israel and the Social Action Committee, Professor Jonathan Levine will discuss a timely issue of practical concern. Jonathan Levine is the Emil Lorch Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Michigan's Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. He studies accessibility in modern transportation and the potential to shift the basis for transportation and land-use planning from mobility to accessibility. In addition to a Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning from UC Berkeley, he holds the Master of City Planning and the Master of Science in Engineering, with a civil engineering/transportation focus. He teaches in the areas of transportation, land use, economics of planning, and research design. This free event includes refreshments.

Jonathan Levine

Gan Katan

Sunday, October 21 and once a month thereafter through April.

Gan Katan, a Beth Israel Religious School program, is designed for 3 and four year olds with a parent (or other adult). Children and parents enjoy stories and activities together. Gan Katan is open to Beth Israel members as well as non-member families. Contact Mira at school@bethisrael–aa.org. Tuition for the year is $150.

Beth Israel events open to nonmembers

Almost all Beth Israel events are open to the general community, and many are offered at no cost. Call (734) 665-9897 for additional information about the summer events.

Additional events will be posted on Beth Israel's website –www.bethisrael-aa.org ■

This month at Temple Beth Emeth

Nellie Stansbury, special to the WJN

Yizkor service and luncheon

Monday, October 1, 11 a.m., TBE Chapel and Social Hall

At this special service, those who have passed since last year's Sukkot will be remembered. Followed by a light luncheon.

Judaism 101: Adult Education Class, led by Rabbi Whinston

Mondays, October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 1 p.m., TBE's Adult Lounge and
Thursdays, October 4, 11, 18 and 25, 7 p.m., TBE's Adult Lounge

A series of classes for those interested in learning more about Judaism. Judaism 101 examines the "hows and whys" of being Jewish. It is designed to give its students an appreciation and basic knowledge of some of the fundamentals of Judaism by learning about the history, theology, and practices of Judaism, led by Rabbi Whinston. Two weekly classes offer opportunities for those working traditional hours and will cover the same materials each week.

Families with Young Children (FYC): Tot Shabbat service

Fridays, October 5, 12, 19 and 26, 5:45 p.m., TBE Sanctuary
5:45 p.m. | Tot (0–5 year olds) Shabbat Services with Rabbi Whinston and Cantor Hayut
6:15 p.m. Dinner for Tot Shabbat | 6:45 p.m. Shira Service

All of your favorite songs led by TBE's tot team, Cantor Hayut and Rabbi Whinston.

A dinner of macaroni and cheese, fish sticks, applesauce, and a salad bar will be served immediately following the short service. Dinner is just $5 per person. Buy a punch card ahead of time for a discounted price. Punch cards are available in the TBE office.

Social Action Committee presentation: Gerrymandering

Tuesday, October 2, 6:30 p.m., TBE Adult Lounge

The non-partisan grassroots group, "Voters not Politicians," is looking for volunteers to canvass in order to get out the vote in November 2018 to fix Michigan's broken redistricting process through a constitutional amendment. Contact Cilla Tomas, cilla.financialguidance@gmail.com, with questions.

Trope & Torah cantillation

Sundays, October 7, 14, 21 and 28, 3:30 p.m., TBE's Adult Lounge

Put your skills to the test by engaging with Torah. Learn the key trope melodies and how to use those melodies to chant an Alliyah of Torah. Contact Cantor Hayut, cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org, with questions.

TBE Board installation

Friday, October 5, TBE Sanctuary, 7 p.m.

Join the TBE Board as they introduce their 2018–2019 board members in a special Shabbat service.

Women's Torah study

Mondays, October 8 and 22, 7 p.m.

An in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org.

Weekly Lunch & Learn

Fridays, October 5, 12, 19 and 26, TBE Adult Lounge, Noon

Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch.

Women of TBE: Historical Novel Reading Group

Monday, October 8, 12:30 p.m., TBE Library

The WTBE Reading Group meets on the second Monday of each month, October through June. This month's book is *Medicus*, by Ruth Downie. Contact Molly Lindner, burnham@umich.edu.

Brotherhood Guys' Night Out

Thursday, October 18, 6:30 p.m., Offsite

Join TBE's Brotherhood for their monthly night out. Contact Brotherhood President, Bill Parkus, parkus@comcast.net, for more information or to join.

Torah study

Saturdays, October 6, 13, 20 and 27, 8:50 a.m.

A weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston.

Families with young(ish) children: Monthly playground meet-up

Sunday, October 28, 10 a.m., Rotating Parks in Ann Arbor

TBE wants to find more ways to connect socially. These meet-up events are for children 0–10 years old. Questions? Contact Beth Pearson, bethlpearson@gmail.com.

Shalom Gever/Jewish Karate

Fridays, October 5, 12, 19 and 26, 4 p.m.
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Try out this unique martial arts instruction including lessons in how to live a healthy lifestyle, be energetic, do well in school and learn anti-bullying self-defense. 12-week semesters for belt advancement. Drop-in when schedules permit. Enrollment is open for students and adults. Shalom Gever is taught by Rabbi Peter Gluck, 5th Degree Black Belt and martial arts instructor for 21 years. Contact the Temple Beth Emeth office at (734) 665-4744 or Rabbi Gluck, info@shalomgever.org, for more registration information.

WTBE Fiber Arts Group

Mondays, October 1 and 15, 7–9 p.m., TBE Adult Lounge

Anyone interested in Fiber Arts: knitting, crocheting, and crafts are welcome. This group will be contributing to the Israeli Peace quilt. (All materials for the project provided by WTBE.) Contact Martha Weintraub, weintraub.martha@gmail.com.

Spirituality Book Club

Tuesday, October 23, 7 p.m. and Thursday, October 25, noon

Led by Annie Rose, TBE's cantor emerita.

Everyone is invited to participate in the new season of TBE's Spirituality Book Club! Feel free to come to Tuesday night sessions or Thursday afternoon sessions. Registration is not required, but it is helpful to planning to know how many people may come: cantorannie@gmail.com. ■

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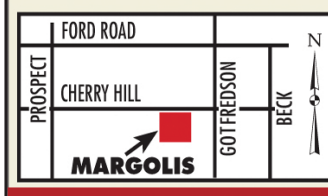

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For more information, contact Claudia Halpern:

claudia@jewishannarbor.org or 734.677.0100 ext 227

HDS teachers selected for prestigious teacher leadership fellowship

Jennifer Rosenberg, special to WJN

The most effective and important agents of change in our educational system are classroom teachers. Yet, in order to climb the career ladder, teachers typically need to leave the classroom in favor of administrative roles. While it is appealing that an administrative role can enable a teacher to effect change more broadly than is possible within the confines of a single classroom, most teachers are reluctant to reduce the amount of time they allot to the experience that drew them to teaching in the first place: direct contact with students. The teacher leadership movement seeks to change that. It proceeds from the premise that exceptional educators do not need to leave the classroom in order to create positive, widespread change. Hebrew Day School embraces this movement and the idea that lies at its core.

Laura Pasek and Milka Eliav, teacher leaders at HDS

Two Hebrew Day School teachers, Laura Pasek and Milka Eliav, have been selected as Fellows for the prestigious Legacy Heritage Teacher Leader Fellowship. This 13-month Fellowship begins with a rigorous three-week summer session at Brandeis University where exceptional educators from all over the country gather to consider ways to work with colleagues and administrators to strengthen instruction and build collaborative school cultures.

During this three-week session, Laura and Milka worked to identify an *adaptive challenge.* An adaptive challenge is a problem the solution to which requires changes in beliefs, values, roles, and approaches to work. Working toward a solution to an adaptive challenge requires experimentation and new discoveries and depends on buy-in from multiple stakeholders. "The challenges in front of us in this field are too complex to be solved in a traditional, top-down approach," Laura Pasek explained. "One of the best parts of the program," she continued. "is the belief that these complex challenges we have to solve will not be solved top-down, but by gaining the investment of multiple stakeholders — parents, students, classroom teachers, and administrators to work collaboratively toward solutions."

Over the course of this year, Laura and Milka will engage with these multiple stakeholders, as well as an expert coach, to help them launch and execute their leadership initiatives. They will participate in several virtual learning experiences with members of their cohorts, providing supportive ongoing learning opportunities and collaboration with other teacher leaders. The program will culminate next summer at Brandeis University with a final three-week session of learning, sharing, and reflecting.

These leadership initiatives are designed to bring about adaptive, transformational change—change that starts and ends with student learning. Milka Eliav's project focuses on redesigning a multi-layered, spiraling Hebrew curriculum that includes benchmarks and exit skills, considers a variety of learner profiles, and is built on a foundation of ambitious expectations. It will offer multiple entry points into the curriculum and consider the many different ways students learn. Milka will be working not only with staff from Brandeis, but with experts from Hebrew at the Center (www.hebrewatthecenter.org) to design and carry out this project. In reflecting on her first summer session, she says, "One of the things I most appreciated about the summer experience was the opportunity to work with top researchers in the field who believe that their role is to be in the trenches with the practitioners. It is not a top-down approach – the expertise comes from the people doing the work in schools with students. This fits well with our philosophy at Hebrew Day School."

The adaptive challenge Laura Pasek is addressing focuses on the ways in which teachers instinctively adapt to meet the wide range of needs each class of students presents. She will be studying and documenting the ways in which expert teachers make subtle and continual changes in their instruction, the curriculum, and the classroom environment to make sure learning is accessible to all. She will study the learning profiles of multiple students and examine how teacher decision-making, and, specifically, teacher questioning techniques, inform the adaptations excellent teachers make. She endeavors to make these practices explicit, and ultimately systematic. "I'm very excited about being part of a movement that seeks inclusivity. It is a movement that understands that there is no such thing as a *typical* learner and the sooner we embrace that fact, the better able we will be to make learning accessible to all the students in front of us," Laura says.

The staff and administration at Hebrew Day School are energized and eager to work with these two teacher leaders on their ambitious projects. "We are pleased and honored that two of our outstanding teachers are being recognized at a national level and are participating in such a promising program," says Jennifer Rosenberg, HDS Head of School. ■

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JCC hires new camp and youth director

Peretz Hirshbein, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor has named this past year's interim camp director, Nicole "Nikki" Feinberg, as its Camp and Youth director. Camp Raanana, the summer day camp serving kindergarten through high school students and located at Cedar Lake Nature Center in Chelsea, is operated by the JCC, and had an extremely successful summer season under Feinberg's leadership. In her new position as Camp and Youth director, Feinberg will continue overseeing Camp Raanana, and add overseeing KidZone, the Ann Arbor JCC's youth program umbrella that includes afterschool, school vacation, and snow day/unanticipated school closing programing serving elementary age children.

Nicole "Nickki" Feinberg

Marlowe Susselman

Feinberg has extensive experience as a Jewish camp and youth professional starting as a camper herself, and later becoming a counselor with her hometown JCC in San Antonio. There she served as a counselor and sports specialist all through her college years. When she moved to Massachusetts for graduate school, she immediately got involved in the Worcester JCC as a teen coordinator, camp counselor, and after school supervisor. Feinberg moved to Ann Arbor in August 2017 to serve two part-time roles, one as the assistant camp director at the JCC, and one as the youth director at Temple Beth Emeth.

"I am so excited to officially take on the role of director. As the interim director this summer I discovered how wonderful it is to lead a staff as talented as we had at Camp Raanana. Seeing how excited our campers were all summer was so inspiring." Feinberg also noted that, "When a parent emailed me about her children saying 'they have really had a great time again at Raanana this year. They've both said they definitely want to come back next year. Kudos to you taking on the directorship this year,' it made me feel so proud of the work that we did this summer."

Joining Feinberg this year in the role of Camp and Youth coordinator is long-time Camp Raanana staffer Marlowe Susselman. Susselman, who recently graduated from Case Western Reserve with a degree in environmental studies, began as a Camp Raanana camper, and over many summers has served in almost every staff role available at camp, including stepping into the critical role of waterfront director for this past summer. In her new role, Susselman will work with Feinberg to develop new youth programming and create an even more exciting program for Camp Raanana's 2019 summer season.

Susselman says, "I am thrilled to begin working on new programs for both KidZone and Camp Raanana. I look forward to collaborating with many other departments within the JCC, as well as with other institutions in and around Ann Arbor, such as Hebrew Day School, the Hands-On Museum, and the Leslie Science Center, to name a few. I have a particular fondness and passion for all things "camp" and am dedicated to maintaining and nurturing a culture of kindness, respect, friendship, independence, curiosity, creativity, and sustainability."

Feinberg notes, "Marlowe and I developed an incredible working relationship during the run up to camp last spring and during camp. We know that we can always count on each other. Most importantly, we had very similar camp experiences growing up, and we share the same values and passion."

For more information about Camp Raanana, KidZone, or other youth programming, visit jccannarbor.org or contact Nikki Feinberg at nicholefeinberg@jccannarbor.org or by calling (734) 971-0990. ■

Nickki and Marlowe at Cedar Lake Nature Center

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Frankel Events

October 2018

The Concept of a Universal Humanity, Social Justice and National Individuality in Modern Jewish Thought
Oct. 9, 4:00 PM
Yossi Turner, Louis & Helen Padnos Visiting Professor
Room 2022, 202 S. Thayer St.

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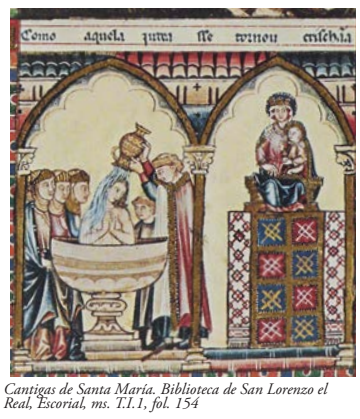
On Site/Sight: From Europe to the Lower East Side and Beyond
Oct. 10, 7:00 PM
Shachar Pinsker and Sara Blair, University of Michigan
Literati Bookstore, 124 E. Washington St.

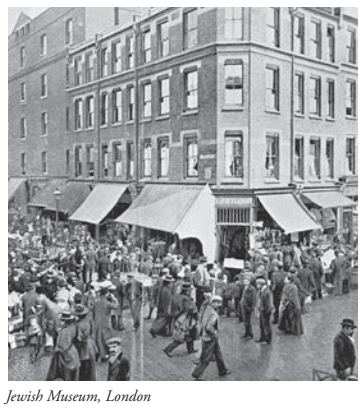
Antologye: Finf Hundert Yor Idishe Poeziye, edited by Morris Bassin (New York: Literarisher Farlag, 1917)

Madame Bovary in the Jewish Provinces: Fradel Shtok's Modernist Yiddish Prose
Oct. 18, 1:00 PM
Allison Schachter, Vanderbilt University
Room 2022, 202 S. Thayer St.



Cantigas de Santa María. Biblioteca de San Lorenzo el Real, Escorial, ms. T.I.1, fol. 154

Jewish Women and Conversion in Medieval Europe
Oct. 23, 4:00 PM
Paola Tartakoff, Rutgers University
Room 2022, 202 S. Thayer St.



Jewish Museum, London

Whitechapel Noise: Politics, sex and religion in Yiddish rhyme on the streets of London's East End 1884-1914
Oct. 30, 4:00 PM
Vivi Lachs, Birkbeck, University of London
Room 2022, 202 S. Thayer St.

All events are free and open to the public. If you have a disability that requires a reasonable accommodation, please call at least two weeks prior to the event.

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Urban kibbutzim plant seeds for improving city life

The old socialist model gets a modern twist as intentional communities make educational and social inroads in underprivileged Israeli neighborhoods.

By Abigail Klein Leichman

Guy Gardi, a founding member of 25-year-old urban Kibbutz Beit Yisrael in the southern Jerusalem neighborhood of Gilo Aleph, doesn't consider himself a pioneer like the founders of the nearly 100-year-old Kibbutz Ein Harod in the Jezreel Valley, where he grew up.

Those original egalitarian communes (kibbutz means "gathering" or "collective") struggled to establish fertile farms in long-barren soil, while today's urban kibbutz is an intentional community working to improve quality of life and education in underserved neighborhoods. It's a different kind of pioneering.

"The unique idea of an urban kibbutz is to take the old idea of a kibbutz — a group of people living together and sharing their resources to help each other accomplish a mission – and apply it to a social environment rather than an agricultural environment," explains Gardi.

Five secular and religious families started Kibbutz Beit Yisrael in 1993. They moved into a former immigrant absorption center in a rundown part of Gilo and extended a hand to residents of the surrounding public-housing projects.

"We're working with amazing people who happen to have a lot of troubles. To understand them we have to live among them, respect them and build trust. The connection has to influence both sides," Gardi tells ISRAEL21c. "Of all the things I do, the most important is just to live there and be a caring friend and neighbor."

Members founded the Kvutzat Reut nonprofit as a vehicle to promote social action and religious pluralism in Gilo Aleph.

Kvutzat Reut-Kibbutz Beit Yisrael offers informal education programs for all ages; revitalizes public preschools and elementary schools with declining enrollment; and founded Mechinat Beit Yisrael, a pre-army leadership, study and local volunteering program that attracts students from Israel and abroad.

"Kibbutz Beit Yisrael was one of the first to invent this model and a lot of people have come here to learn about it in the past 25 years," says longtime member Omer Lefkowitz. "Israel is full of people looking for vision, for a life of meaning. Mission-driven communities give them a way to do that."

A new social movement

Nomika Zion, founder of urban Kibbutz Migvan in the blue-collar southern town of Sderot, estimates that more than 200 urban kibbutzim or similar intentional communities exist across Israel. More are springing up all the time.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Members of Kibbutz Migvan in Sderot built their own neighborhood within the city

"It's a new social movement," she says.

This movement includes Garin Torani communities of religious young families; student volunteer villages of the grassroots Ayalim Association in the Negev and Galilee; and non-Jewish (including Druze) intentional communities.

"What they have in common is that they are extremely involved in their city or town's social welfare and education," Zion tells ISRAEL21c. "Most don't have a sharing economy like classic kibbutzim but they often work and live together."

Zion frequently hosts foreign visitors, reporters and university students wishing to understand the phenomenon. She starts with her own story as a third-generation kibbutznik.

"I was raised on social values of equality, but nearby there was a development town of North African immigrants we never met. I wanted to break down the metaphorical wall," Zion says. "I wanted to bring the kibbutz into the city and share my life with people of different backgrounds, and try to build relationships not based on patronizing anyone."

Six young pioneers followed Zion to Sderot in 1987. At that time, many children of the town's original Moroccan immigrants were growing up and taking leadership roles to improve life in Sderot.

"There were exciting changes happening and we wanted to be part of that," says Zion. "When we started we got no support from the Kibbutz Movement or the government.

continued on page 20

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Seven huge new tourism projects planned in Israel

With tourism on the rise, Israel is investing in significant infrastructure that will revolutionize its travel industry. Check out what's in store.

By Abigail Klein Leichman, ISRAEL21c

Several exciting infrastructure projects are in the works to make touring Israel more convenient, memorable and accessible. The time is right, as tourism stats are spiking ever higher.

During 2017, a record 3.6 million tourists entered Israel, a 25 percent increase over 2016. Between January and June 2018, a record-breaking 2 million tourist entries were recorded, a 19% increase on the same period last year. The most popular destinations are Jerusalem, Tel Aviv-Jaffa, the Dead Sea, Tiberias and the Galilee.

ISRAEL21c looks at seven projects in various stages of planning and construction. Please note that estimated completion dates are subject to change.

1. Cable car in Jerusalem

About 85% of tourists to Israel visit the iconic religious sites in the Old City of Jerusalem. However, although special arrangements can be made for visitors with mobility limitations, accessibility is problematic. Buses and cars battle heavy traffic; parking is inadequate. Pedestrians encounter stairs, uneven cobblestones and narrow alleys.

That's why Minister of Tourism Yariv Levin wasn't exaggerating when he said that a planned cable car "will change the face of Jerusalem, offering tourists and visitors easy and comfortable access to the Western Wall, and will serve as an outstanding tourism attraction in its own right."

On Jerusalem Day last May, the government approved Levin's proposal to invest $56 million in building a 1,400-meter cable car route from the First Station leisure compound (offering ample parking and bus transportation) to the Dung Gate, the entrance nearest to the Davidson Center-Jerusalem Archeological Park and Western Wall.

Estimated to be operational in 2021, the cable car will stop along the way at the Mount of Olives, Mount Zion and City of David. An estimated 3,000 people could be transported hourly in each direction.

2.The fast rail between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem

This extraordinary rail line will revolutionize travel between the country's two biggest cities, replacing a traffic-snarled 60-kilometer (37-mile) trip of about an hour, or sometimes more in rush hour, with a smooth journey of under 30 minutes.

The fast rail will service Ben-Gurion International Airport, Tel Aviv's four railway stations and a transportation hub alongside Jerusalem's Central Bus Station and light rail.

The $1.9 billion Israel Railways project, involving nine bridges and four tunnels, was supposed to launch last March but repeated delays are leaving everyone waiting impatiently.

Whenever it does start running, perhaps in late September, the fast rail eventually will have four double-decker trains in each direction every hour, each accommodating about 1,000 passengers.

PHOTO: SCREENSHOT

Illustration of proposed Jerusalem cable car

IMAGE COURTESY OF ISRAEL RAILWAYS

New double-decker trains arriving in Israel for the fast-rail line linking Jerusalem and Tel Aviv

PHOTO BY VICTOR LEVY

New double-decker trains arriving in Israel for the fast-rail line linking Jerusalem and Tel Aviv

3. Jewish theme park in Dimona

Take a ride on Jacob's Ladder and hold on tight for the People of the Book roller coaster — two of the 16 rides planned for Park Pla-im (Park of Wonders) to be constructed in the southern city of Dimona.

Advertised as a Jewish theme park promoting universal values, Park Pla-im reportedly has been designed by ITEC Entertainment of Florida, which designs theme parks internationally.

The $400 million tourist destination will include five "worlds," each with four or five rides: Oasis, World of Spirits, World of the Jewish Nation, World of Society and World of Time.

The projected opening date of Park Pla-im is 2023. Hotels and other tourist amenities are planned near the theme park, with potential for turning this desert town south of Beersheva and the Dead Sea into an inviting attraction. There's already a luxury hotel in town, the Drachim.

4. Eilat Ramon Airport

Located 18 kilometers north of Eilat, Israel's premiere tourist resort at the northern tip of the Red Sea, Israel's new 34,000-square-meter international airport will replace the Eilat J. Hozman Airport in the center of Eilat and Ovda Airport 60 kilometers north of the city.

From October 2017 to April 2018, the critical winter season, 145,841 airline passengers landed in Ovda, arriving on about 50 weekly flights from Europe. That's a 56% increase over the 2016-17 winter season.

It is expected that the new airport – slated to open in early 2019 – will lead to even greater numbers of domestic and foreign tourists.

5. Crusader Wall Promenade

The Crusader Wall Promenade, a newly opened tourist attraction at Caesarea Harbor National Park, involved the preservation and renovation of the Roman-era beach promenade, walls, fortifications and towers as well as the Crusader market.

Funded by the Caesarea Edmond Benjamin de Rothschild Foundation, the Crusader Wall Promenade is part of a larger tourism initiative in the 2,000-year-old port city, which boasts many archeological ruins and attracts half a million visitors every year.

6. Ecological beach in Eilat

A 200-meter-long stretch of shoreline on the Gulf of Eilat adjacent to the Dolphin Reef is being developed as an ecological beach and environmental education center.

An old pier at the site, formerly used for transporting oil, will be renovated as an environmental tourist attraction – complete with a marine garden, wind chimes and natural climbing structures – as well as a headquarters for Israeli youth group Shomrei Hamifratz (Guardians of the Gulf).

Eilat's coastline encompasses a marine reserve with magnificent coral reefs.

7. Bedouin boutique hotel

Bedouin-style accommodations – desert khans or tents in the Negev or Galilee – are popular with low-budget and back-to-nature tourists.

In the near future there will be a new option in Bedouin tourism experiences in Israel: the world's first hotel in a Bedouin village.

The 120-room, 4-star hotel will be built at the foot of Mount Tabor in the village of Shibli-Umm al-Ghanam.

The Ministry of Tourism has approved a budget to establish a tourism infrastructure in the village, which is strategically located near Christian holy sites, the Gospel Trail and the Israel Trail.

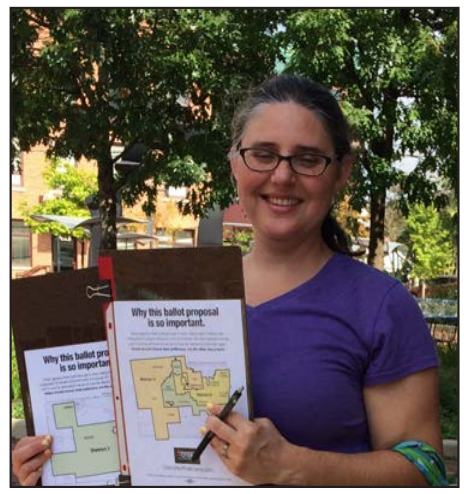
According to Shibli Regional Council Director Na'im Shibli, the hotel will be "based on Bedouin culture, featuring Bedouin hospitality and healthy natural Bedouin cuisine from the Galilee. This will be a luxury hotel unlike any other in Israel, which will give an economic boost to the village and the entire region." ■

Local volunteers work to pass Proposal 2

By Carol Lessure and Dan Meisler

In June 2017, a group of local volunteers gathered at the Ann Arbor Friends Meeting House to launch the effort to put voters in charge of drawing district lines in Michigan and created what would become Proposal 2 as a regional team with Voters Not Politicians, the grassroots, nonpartisan campaign working to end partisan gerrymandering in Michigan. Today this hearty crew of locals has engaged thousands of volunteers to work on reaching the more than 280,000 registered voters in Washtenaw County and beyond. Its central organizing group meets regularly and includes many members of the Jewish community among its volunteers who are knocking on doors, securing endorsements, managing volunteers, and wrangling donations.

Rena Basch



Leah Kessler

One of the organizers of this event, Rena Basch, has been involved with this effort from nearly its beginning at the end of 2016. She said, "Like so many others who hear the call or feel a moral obligation to *tikkun olam*, I decided to do something. I chose to work on redistricting reform, a long-term fix to a broken system. Under the current system, there will be no improvement on the major issues of our time that I care about. Ending gerrymandering — the political map-drawing game that politicians play to keep themselves in power — is crucial to saving democracy, making every vote count, and frankly restoring sanity and intelligence in the public policy decision-making process of our legislative bodies."

Proposal 2 will ensure that voters choose their politicians — not the other way around. Today, politicians and lobbyists draw voting maps behind closed doors that directly benefit themselves, instead of putting the interests of voters or communities of Michigan first. Proposal 2 will create a transparent redistricting process with public hearings to allow community organizations and individual voters to participate.

"I am working to save democracy," said former state Senator Lana Pollack who has been working to build support for Proposal 2 across the state. "My call to action draws from Deuteronomy: 'Justice, Justice Shall You Pursue,'" said volunteer Leah Kessler. "The current system of shaping our representative districts is an injustice to all voters and disproportionately impacts specific populations." Kessler joined 3,000 petition circulators across the state to gather signatures to qualify Voters Not Politicians to be on the November 6, 2018 ballot. She was one of 145 who personally gathered over 500 signatures and now serves as the Regional Education Co-Coordinator for the Vote Yes on Proposal 2 campaign, helping train local presenters and scheduling them to speak to various groups in Southeast Michigan.

Not only has Voters Not Politicians mobilized volunteers across the state, but the organization has also provided 420 educational presentations and raised over $1 million from more than 8,000 grassroots contributors as of early September 2018. Typically, ballot committees secure major dollars from a few significant donors, businesses, and community-based organizations to reach voters through expensive television ads. These grassroot donations demonstrate deep interest and support for changing things in Michigan fueled by citizens that want to see our political system be more fair, impartial, and transparent.

Civic engagement is a priority of national and statewide Jewish organizations, including the National Council of Jewish Women-Michigan, which was an early endorser of this effort and will host a forum on Thursday, October 4, at 7 p.m. at the Farmington Hills Library on Proposal 2. The Rabbinic Assembly of the Conservative Movement has urged action to prevent attempts to limit citizens' ability to vote following the U.S. Supreme Court's 2013 decision that invalidated key parts of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner wrote on the Union of Reform Judaism blog in June that: "Voting is vital if we are to be responsible for our society and ensure that everyone is included and can participate. For decades, we have advocated for voting rights and worked to bring more people into the democratic process."

Over the next five weeks, thousands of volunteers will fan out across the state knocking on doors to talk face-to-face with voters about Proposal 2. Many have never canvassed before. Seth Warschausky was part of a group that tested out going door-to-door to collect signatures and has spent eight hours a month canvassing since May. "This is the first time I have canvassed but I am certain that passing Proposal 2 is one of the most important ways that we can improve our voting process and state government," said Warschausky. "The most gratifying canvassing conversations that I have are with people who either do not know about gerrymandering or who are undecided but have been hearing misinformation. People feel

continued on page 20

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Urban Kibbutz, continued from page 16

But we wanted to create a new kind of communal model in Israel."

Kibbutz Migvan members lived in public housing for 14 years before buying land and building their own houses and community center.

They established the first high-tech company in Sderot. The owners from the kibbutz and the workers from town earned equal salaries and made management decisions democratically.

In 1994, they founded the Gvanim Association to provide equal employment and education opportunities for Israelis with special needs. In 2008, they built houses for about 20 people with physical disabilities to live among them.

Today, the high-tech company and Gvanim are independently run. Many of Kibbutz Migvan's 100 members are involved in these enterprises but are free to work wherever they choose.

Without sacrificing shared activities such as meals, childcare, holiday celebrations and educational seminars, the economic and social structure has become more flexible just as it has on many of the 250 traditional kibbutzim across Israel.

"Over the years many families joined us but didn't want to have a shared economy, so today only six families are in that shared economy and the rest are not," Zion explains. "Everyone is very close to one another despite their differences. People contribute in different ways."

A similar shift has taken place at Kibbutz Beit Yisrael in Jerusalem. Its 10 core families are supplemented by an economically independent group of 60 to 80 families who help carry out Kvutzat Reut's programs. Mechinat Beit Yisrael currently has 60 men and women in the first year and 25 in the second year.

Lefkowitz, now 40, graduated from the first class of Mechinat Beit Yisrael and came back after the army in 2002 to join the urban kibbutz. He teaches at the academy and directs the activities of alumni who have so far started six similar urban kibbutzim around Israel.

Many of the at-risk neighborhood kids who benefited from Kvutzat Reut programs also come back after the army and become partners in improving the neighborhood.

"The social projects we do touch more and more people," Lefkowitz says. "It's not a project; it's life. You need people that see it as a mission."

Building Israeli society together

In an impoverished neighborhood of the northern town of Nazareth Illit, 150 members of urban Kibbutz Mishol — half of them children – reside in an eight-story former immigrant absorption center.

About 20 percent of their neighbors are senior citizens. Immigrants from the former Soviet Union, Arab Muslims and Christians are the predominant populations groups here.

"We started about 20 years ago," says founding member James Grant Rosenhead, 44, a 1999 immigrant from the UK. "We work with all the populations together, in a neighborhood where there's a lot of racism, and bring kids to an ability to build Israeli society together."

Members of Kibbutz Mishol run and staff the local elementary school, the flagship project of its NGO, Tikkun, whose projects also include children's afterschool programs and a drop-in youth center. They will build an educational greenhouse at the school this year.

Tikkun took over HaMahanot HaOlim, a national youth movement founded in 1929 to help establish agricultural kibbutzim, to prepare young Israelis from its 50 branches to found intentional urban communities.

"We now have a network of six activist kibbutzim – ours in addition to kibbutzim in Rishon LeZion, Eilat, Migdal HaEmek, Haifa and the Jordan Valley," Rosenhead tells ISRAEL21c. "We help them establish educational and social projects in their neighborhoods."

Eighty percent of adult Kibbutz Mishol members choose to work in Tikkun projects locally and nationwide. Rosenhead, formerly the joint CEO of Tikkun, recently retrained as a computer programmer to work in the kibbutz's database development startup.

Hazon, the US-based Jewish Lab for Sustainability, is launching a project to introduce potential diaspora intentional communities to existing Israeli ones. Rosenhead will be a guide for these visits.

"People think human beings don't share and cooperate well, but it turns out that it is possible to compromise, cooperate and form an intensive community life," says Rosenhead.

Adds Zion, from Kibbutz Migvan: "When you create a new social model for life, it's very romantic. Then you meet reality and there are many compromises and disappointments. And yet, I couldn't have dreamed 33 years ago that the reality would be better than the dream." ■

Election 2018, continued from page 18

disenfranchised and disconnected. Personal conversations can be the most powerful way of helping people to regain a sense of investment in community and I get to meet a lot of terrific folks!"

Proposal 2 will put voters—not politicians—in charge of drawing election maps so that one group of voters cannot be marginalized, nor can one political party or candidate have an unfair advantage. Maps will be drawn following strict criteria through compromise by Republicans, Democrats, and voters who don't affiliate with either party. Two members of each group must agree to approve the final maps. The process will happen in public meetings with input from Michiganders, not behind closed doors. Everything used to draw the maps—including data and software—must be published publicly.

Basch said the following about her time spent on Proposal 2: "It's exhilarating to be part of such an authentically grassroots organization of passionate volunteer activist,s including many members of the Jewish community who, like me seek this historic opportunity to create positive systematic change. It's for these reasons that I believe the most important issue before us this fall is Proposal 2, the Michigan constitutional amendment proposal to create a citizens commission to draw the political district boundaries."

Proposal 2 will appear at the bottom of the November 6 ballot in the nonpartisan section. To learn more or to get involved, visit www.votersnotpoliticians.com. ■

A story of love, committment, betrayal

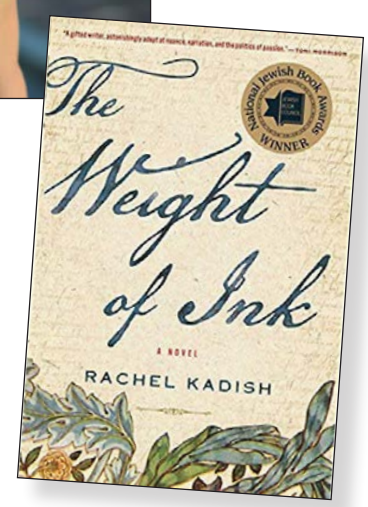
The Weight of Ink *by Rachel Kadish*

Lois Godel, staff writer

The *Weight of Ink* is a fascinating work of historical fiction. Originally published in June 2017, it found its way into paperback in May of 2018. It runs a little under 600 pages, and while some readers may find this a bit too long, others will be disappointed to leave the rich world that Rachel Kadish created in this novel.

Rachel Kadish

It is about the danger of expressing controversial ideas and the freedom of expression that may come by writing anonymously.



The book opens with a quote from Shakespeare's Sonnet No. 71. "Nary, if you read this line, remember not/The hand that writ it."

The *Weight of Ink* is a book about writing. It is a book about the meaning of ink: its indelibility. It is about the danger of expressing controversial ideas and the freedom of expression that may come by writing anonymously. It is about community and power.

It is about the life of the mind and it is about desire: both physical and intellectual desire, and sometimes the cruel necessity of having to choose one to the entire exclusion of the other, and at other times, the belief that it is necessary to choose one over the other, when it is not.

It is about love and commitment and the difficulty of expressing and enacting love. It is a book about betrayal.

The novel interweaves two stories, whose main characters are scholarly women. The earlier narrative is set in the middle of the-17th century, in the midst of London's twice emigrated (via Amsterdam) Portuguese Jewish community. It takes place in the era of Shakespeare, Spinoza and the Spanish- Portuguese Inquisition.

This part of the story begins shortly before the Great Plague descends upon London, and with the plague, a magnification of fear and closed-mindedness. Philosophical and religious explorations on the nature of God and existence were not encouraged in these times by Jews or Christians. To engage in religious discourse could easily be considered heresy, and bring about excommunication, or even death.

The more current story unfolds within a university community, in the early 21st Century, London. The contemporary protagonist, Helen Watt, an ailing professor of Middle Eastern history, on the cusp of retirement, has been invited by a former student to examine a cache of 300-year-old documents, that were discovered hidden beneath a staircase in a London suburb. The documents, primarily correspondence between rabbis in the 1660s, were written in Hebrew and Portuguese.

Helen immediately discerns the value of these documents for the wealth of knowledge they will shed upon London's Portuguese Jewish community and successfully prevails upon her university to purchase them. A colleague recommends an American graduate student, Aaron Levy, to assist Helen in translating and interpreting the documents.

The friction arising between Helen and Aaron is instantaneous and palpable. While they share the values of scholarship, and a reverence for history, their personal styles are at complete odds. Additionally, each is struggling with his and her own personal demons: Helen is close to the end of her career and perhaps her life, while Aaron is at the beginning of his, and floundering in the subject he has chosen for his thesis. Aaron, handsome and arrogant, evokes in Helen painful memories of a long-lost love, while Aaron tries to come to terms with his own feelings for a young woman who may be lost to him.

As Aaron and Helen examine the correspondence between a rabbi and his students and other scholars of religion and philosophy, they notice that each writing bears the Hebrew letter "Aleph," a mark of a scribe. Because of the inclusion of household lists in the same handwriting as the letters, Aaron and Helen soon come to speculate that Aleph could be a woman — a seeming impossibility in the 17th Century, when all education for women was prohibited. If the scribe was indeed a woman, that alone will make their findings spectacular.

Meanwhile, the duplicitous head of the department sends four of his own researchers to concurrently examine the documents.

continued on next page

Ari Axelrod: Honoring the link between the Jewish people and musical theater

Emily Slomovits, staff writer

Musical theatre as an art form has always been inextricably connected to the Jewish people since its inception in the early part of the 20th Century. George and Ira Gershwin, Leonard Bernstein, Betty Comden and Adolph Green, and many other Jewish composers built the foundation for the Golden Age of Musicals in which Bernstein, Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein, and other Jewish musical theatre composers flourished and paved the way for later Jewish giants of the art form like Lynn Ahrens, Adam Guettel, Jason Robert Brown, Stephen Schwartz and of course, Stephen Sondheim.

Ari Axelrod, who grew up in Ann Arbor and is now pursuing his musical theatre career in New York City, often addresses this connection in his cabaret shows, which he has staged at the legendary 54 Below in NYC. Axelrod will bring a night of stories and songs highlighting the Jewish influence on the American Musical to Eastern Michigan University's Student Center Ballroom on October 7, at 6 p.m. I spoke with Axelrod about his upcoming show, and more.

WJN: What was the first musical you saw, and how did it affect you? Were you already thinking that you wanted to be a performer?

Axelrod: The first musical I saw on Broadway was *Riverdance* in 2000. At the time, I was really interested in percussion. I took drum lessons from kindergarten through 8th grade and then again in college. The only thing I remember from *Riverdance* was the immensely cool percussion; I don't remember much of the actual performances.

WJN: How much was Judaism a part of your life as a child, and has that changed as you've grown older?

Axelrod: I was raised a conservative Jew who grew up speaking Hebrew, regularly attending Beth Israel synagogue, and am an alumnus of Hebrew Day School. If I'm honest, my Jewish identity as a child was rooted in what my parents and teachers taught me, almost none of it centering around what I believed in. It wasn't until I finished my freshman year at Webster in St. Louis that I took a step back from Judaism and took a moment to assess what about Judaism mattered most to me. I ultimately came to the realization that the food, the music, the community, the specific type of complaining, the power that lies in our resilience as a people, and the music is what resonated with me. The jury is still out as to whether or not I believe in God, but if one day I decided that I did believe in God, my Jewish identity would be only slightly affected. I realized that Judaism is so much more than a belief in God. It's so much more than a religion. It's, as aforementioned, a people. An international tribe.

WJN: Has being Jewish informed the kind of art you make, or the kind of art you want to make?

Axelrod: Absolutely. The American Musical, or musical theatre as we know it today, is an American art form. But more than that, it's a Jewish American art form. I find that being in line for an audition and hearing someone sing "If I Loved You" from Carousel by Rodgers and Hammerstein is a religious experience, pun intended. A group of Jewish immigrants, or the children of Jewish immigrants, who didn't fit into American society, created Broadway. In order to fit in, they carved out a space to belong through making "popular music." That popular music was overflowing with Jewish nuance. When I hear their music today in the practice rooms of NYC, in class, in auditions, I get emotional because it's a Jewish American legacy that has not only endured, but continues to thrive even today. Hearing those tunes today is the epitome of l'dor v'dor. I want to make art that continues that legacy, or at the very least shines a greater spotlight on that legacy.

WJN: Is there a Jewish aspect to your cabaret shows?

Axelrod: Because cabaret is, in my opinion, an art form centered around expressing your most authentic self to an audience, and seeing as I'm a proud and outspoken Jew, I'd be doing a disservice to the art form and to the audience if I didn't include a Jewish aspect to my shows.

WJN: Can you talk about some of the challenges and rewards of putting together your own cabaret show in New York?

Axelrod: The hardest and most stressful thing about putting a show together in NYC is selling tickets. Even when you sellout a show, it sells out last minute because many New Yorkers don't like to plan things too far in advance. There's always that slight moment of panic two weeks out. The most rewarding thing has been to see how my story has affected other people. I have a section where I sing about my brain surgery, and a woman came up to me who had just undergone her last round of chemo for breast cancer and said with tears in her eyes, "I almost didn't come tonight, but my daughter dragged me here and I'm so glad she did. Seeing a 20 something person tell their story with such strength and resilience gave me hope for my own battle." That, for me, above anything else, makes it all worth it.

WJN: You'll be sharing an evening of songs and stories at EMU on October 7th; how did this event come about? Had you ever been involved with the Jewish Studies or Theatre programs at EMU?

Axelrod: Marty Schictman (Director of EMU Jewish Studies) brought me in to talk to his class while they were on a trip to NYC this past spring. After class was over, we went to the bar across the street and got to talking about West Side Story, which happens to be our favorite show. He called me a few weeks later and said, "When you were talking about West Side Story, I thought to myself 'man, I want to see a whole evening of you geeking out about musical theatre.'" So, we put something on the books. I've never been involved with either Jewish Studies or the Theatre programs at Eastern before this event, which is a shanda!

WJN: What can we expect from your show at EMU? Will it be very similar to your NY cabaret shows, or will there be tweaks made for the Michigan crowd?

Axelrod: It's a completely different show. It'll be a night of me discussing, honoring, and sharing stories about the Jewish influence on musical theatre. I have taken some songs from my cabaret act and put it into the show, but for the most part it's a totally different show. My other cabaret was much more autobiographical. This one focuses much more on the Jewish influence on the art form.

WJN: Do you have any thoughts or advice for people who want to pursue a similar path?

Axelrod: I'd like to send a quick message to any young performer reading this: Keep pursuing your dreams; one day it will pay off. Stay humble, respectful, and always lead with gratitude, but never forget to keep a bit of grit in your pocket every step you take. No never means no, it means not now. Keep your dreams close to your heart and never give up on them.

On a more Jewish note: To anyone who feels they have to emphasize the "ISH" in Jewish because they don't believe in God, there's no need. Identify the things that are meaningful to you about being a Jew and hold onto them steadfastly. If it's the smell of your grandmother's kugel whose recipe was passed down from your great-great-great-grandmother in Russia, or the sound of two New York Jews complaining about their pastrami being dry, or the traditions your family raised you around, be a detective and uncover what's meaningful to you. Claim your place in this community as your own.

Ari Axelrod will present an evening of songs and stories at EMU's Student Center Ballroom on Sunday, October 7, at 6 p.m. For ticket information, please call (734) 4876640. ■

Best Reads, continued from previous page

Whoever is first to publish will take all the glory. The race to complete their research and publish their findings adds tension to the story and provides a catalyst for Aaron and Helen to develop a camaraderie while coming to terms with the life decisions they have each made.

In the 17th Century, a woman named Ester Velasquez became the unlikely scribe for a rabbi whose eyes were gouged out during the Inquisition. Ester's father had recognized her profound intelligence when she was a young child, and ignoring prohibitions against educating women, allowed his daughter to learn to read and write. The realm of ideas was where Ester belonged, although for women, even basic literacy was considered a serious flaw and a detriment to marriage.

"How could desire be wrong — the question seized her — if each being contained it? Each creature was born with the unthinking need to draw each breath, find each next meal. Mustn't desire then be integral? A set of essential guideposts on the map of life's purpose? And mustn't its very denial then be desecration?"

Ester's intellect was stimulated by the philosophical and religious discussions she was exposed to in the rabbi's employ. The books in the rabbi's library sparked a desire for more books.

Ester's betrayal of the rabbi began over his efforts to find her a husband. If Ester married, the world of ideas would be closed to her. She impersonated the rabbi, first to discourage prospective suitors and then proceeded to do everything necessary to assure her continued access to an intellectual life.

The *Weight of Ink* makes an excellent choice for a book club discussion. Most of the writing is beautiful. Dualities of themes and characters flow throughout the book. (My sole criticism is that some of the philosophical discourses continued longer than I personally preferred, but others may find themselves wanting more). Overall, this is a wonderful book. Rachel Kadish created a world that I, as reader, could believe in. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience of visiting 17th century England. ■

Soup and salad make everything all right

Lonnie Sussman, staff writer

I love the Jewish holidays in the fall and really enjoy preparing for them and celebrating with family and friends. But, after four weeks of lots and lots of cooking I'm ready to think about easier, simpler, smaller meals. Weekdays are mostly everyone for themselves and I really only cook for Shabbat and hope the leftovers last past the weekend. Still, I want to have something tasty and fulfilling to eat. Soup or salad or soup and salad sound like just the right amount of chopping, cooking and eating.

In thinking about eating soup I am reminded of a few stories that connect emotionally with this food. I'm not really thinking about chicken soup for healing or for the soul although so many of us have that in mind. Whether it is made with homemade broth, store bought broth, water, whole chickens or just the dark meat depends on your taste or tradition. I think there is an actual "rule" that one must use onions, carrots and celery to flavor the broth. In our house parsnips are required but I do know that others want zucchini or sweet potatoes to add sweetness to the soup. Along with salt and pepper many add parsley or dill, or both. Just the thought of chicken soup makes everything seem all right, except when it's really wrong.

One Pesach I made chicken soup but we use so much that I made it in two batches. I made one pot one day and another pot the next day. Then I poured the "new" pot into the old one. When we were heating it up later that night I asked my mom to taste it and add the salt, which she almost always needs to do when I make soup. "Ugh, are you trying to poison me?" she cried. "What's wrong?" I asked. Well, apparently you can't pour hot soup into cold soup because it sours, spoils, poisons, RUINS the soup!! No chicken soup that Pesach. Lesson learned.

Esther Goldstein make a vegetable soup her children named 409 after their address. They ask for it whenever they come back to Ann Arbor. It's a symbol of home, love and family. Esther modestly claims she just puts in a bunch of vegetables but apparently lots of feeling goes into the soup as well.

A few months ago, my mom told us a memory she had about soup. In the late 1940s she lived on a kibbutz- style farm in Creamridge, New Jersey, named HeChalutz (Pioneer) Farm. It was founded by the Habonim Youth Organization to help prepare young adults for *aliyah* (moving to the young state of Israel). She was in charge of the chickens but also worked in the kitchen. About 30 people lived there year-round but the numbers could swell on the weekends to 100 or more. The young men, soldiers on leave or those who were recently discharged from the armed forces, came to visit friends and family who were living at the farm. Mom's brother, Sid, came for a visit when he returned from the army and so did my dad. He came to see his sister but also met my mother and the rest of that story is history. When asked what they cooked for all those people she said they mostly ate what they grew. She would make a big pot of vegetable soup from the vegetables they harvested.

Salads are a different story completely. I don't remember any emotional connections or have fond memories of the salads of my childhood. I do remember as a young mother thinking, "I hate making salad because it's boring." The thought of chopping up more lettuce, cucumbers and carrots, even with the "fancy" addition of chickpeas or sprouts made me yawn with boredom. Even today I find a simple chopped salad incredibly blah. However, adding grains or funky dressings makes even the blah exciting. Homemade dressings are easy and way cheaper than bottled dressing. Thank goodness new salad recipes are full of exciting grains, interesting vegetables and great flavors.

Here are some soup and salad recipes that I think are easy, fun and very tasty. *B'Ta-a von* ■

Devorah Leah's veggie soup

Pareve and serves 4-6

1 red onion, chopped
1 acorn squash, peeled and chopped
1 butternut squash, peeled and chopped
1 tomato, chopped
1 sweet potato, peeled and chopped
2 carrots, peeled and chopped

Saute the red onion in a bit of oil. Then add the peeled and chopped vegetables, except the tomato and add about 4–6 cups of water or vegetable broth to cover them. Add salt and pepper to taste along with garlic powder. Bring to a boil and then lower the temperature and cover. Cook until the vegetables are soft and then add the chopped tomato. Use an immersion blender to blend everything.

Carrot Wasabi Soup

Pareve and it serves 4 but is easily doubled or tripled.

Our nephews, Max and Eli Sussman own a restaurant and catering service in Brooklyn, New York, and have published four cookbooks. This soup is from *Classic Recipe for Modern People* and was one of the recipes I tested for them. Eli wrote that the inspiration for this recipe came from having a lot of carrots in the house but the soup needed a "kick." It is good both hot or cold.

2 lb. carrots, peeled and split lengthwise and cut crosswise into 1-inch pieces.
½ cup olive oil
½ cup rice vinegar
1 Tbs. toasted sesame oil
2 tsp. mirin
3 Tbs. fresh ginger, peeled and coarsely chopped
2 Tbs. wasabi paste (leave it out if it's too much for you)
Kosher salt to taste
¼ pound sugar snap peas, thinly sliced lengthwise
2 Tbs. black sesame seeds

1. Preheat the oven to 375°. Toss the split and cut carrots with ¼ cup of olive oil. Roast for about 15 minutes. Let them cool for 10 minutes.

2. Transfer the carrots to a blender or food processor and add the last ¼ cup olive oil and 2 cups of water, ½ cup at a time. Process until very smooth.

3. Add the vinegar, sesame oil, mirin (I have sometimes left this out if I didn't have any but it's a great added flavor), ginger, wasabi and 1 tsp salt and process for about a minute.

4. If you want it cold, transfer to a bowl or pitcher and cover and refrigerate for at least two hours. If you want to heat it up, transfer it to a pot.

5. Serve with a garnish of snap peas and black sesame seeds

Salad Recipes

Edamame, corn and farro salad

Pareve, serves 4 as a main dish but 10–12 as a side dish

This is such a delicious salad that I first had at a family dinner. It was made by my sister-in-law's sister, Beth Avadenka. She is an amazing cook and baker and her food is always delicious and beautiful. She got the recipe from a blog called Subeeskitchen.com

1 package (12 oz.) frozen shelled edamame (soybeans)
3 cups frozen corn (about 12 oz)
½ cup Craisins
1 cup pecan pieces, toasted
½ cup cilantro
½ cup chopped scallions
½ cup toasted sesame oil
3 Tbs. rice vinegar (unseasoned)
1 tsp. kosher salt
1 cup cooked pearled farro
1 tiny squeeze of honey or agave nectar

1. Make the farro by rinsing the grain in a bowl of cold water, pour off the water and drain well. In a medium saucepan bring 3 cups of water to a boil and add the salt and farro. Cover the pan and turn the heat to low. Simmer for 15–20 minutes and drain and cool.

2. Make the salad by mixing the frozen edamame, corn and Craisins. The frozen vegetables will thaw while you toast the pecans. Toast them by placing them in a frying pan over medium-low heat and cook for about 5 minutes, shaking the pan occasionally until they are fragrant. Be careful! They can burn the second you turn your back on them. Let cool

3. Dressing: Mix the sesame oil and rice vinegar and salt together

4. Chop the cilantro (if you hate cilantro use parsley) and scallions and add to the bowl along with the cooled pecans. Add the farro and a tiny squeeze of honey or agave. The salad is best made about an hour before serving so the flavors meld. Add dressing and mix before serving.

Autumn green salad

Pareve, serves 4–6

Another fantastic salad with a great, slightly spicy dressing from Beth Avadenka

12–16 ounces mixed greens
2–4 chopped Granny Smith apples (peeled or unpeeled)
4–6 green onions, chopped
1–2 cups pea pods, slivered

Dressing

1/3 cup raspberry vinegar (apple cider vinegar is okay)
2/3 cup olive oil
1 tsp dried mustard or a squeeze of honey or Dijon mustard
1–2 tsps. curry powder
1 Tbs. chutney or fruit preserves
1 tsp. hot sauce (optional)
Salt and pepper to taste

Put all the ingredients into a blender and mix thoroughly. Add roasted sesame seeds, golden raisins or honey roasted peanuts if you like. (The peanuts are really, really good.)

Peaches and tomatoes with burrata and hot sauce

Dairy, serves about 4, from *Bon Appetit*

You may still have some tomatoes from your garden or from the Farmers' Market. Use really tasty ones.

2 Tbs. olive oil
2 Tbs. mild hot sauce
2 tsps. unseasoned rice vinegar
2 tsps. honey
kosher salt
3 ripe peaches or nectarines, cut into wedges
2 large ripe tomatoes or 1 lb. mixed tomatoes, sliced
1 8-oz. ball of burrata or fresh mozzarella, torn into large pieces
tarrogon sprigs for garnish
Sea Salt

1. Whisk oil, hot sauce, vinegar and honey in a small bowl until honey is dissolved. Season with salt. Toss peaches, tomatoes and half the dressing in a medium bowl and let sit for 5 minutes.

2. Transfer the salad to a larger platter. Top with the burrata (or mozzarella) and drizzle with the remaining dressing. Scatter a few torn tarragon sprigs over the top and season with a bit more salt.

October 2018

Monday 1

Shemini Atzeret Services: BIC. Morning Service at 9:30 a.m. Mincha at 6:30 p.m. Maariv and Simchat Torah Hakafot at 6:45 p.m.

Shemini Atzeret Services and Simchat Torah: Chabad. Morning Services and Memorial Services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon/Evening Services at 7 p.m. Simchat Torah candle lighting after 7:58 p.m. Simchat Torah with all night dancing at 7:40 p.m.

Shemini Atzeret Services: AAOM. Held at Hillel, 1429 Hill Street. 9:30 a.m.

Yizkor Service and Luncheon: TBE. 11 a.m.

Judaism 101: TBE. 1 p.m.

Simchat Torah Services and Dinner: AAOM. Held at Hillel, 1429 Hill Street. For details, including time, email community@annarborminyan.org or visit www.annarborminyan.org.

Tuesday 2

Simchat Torah Services: BIC. Shaharit and Hallal Service at 8:30 a.m. "International Shul of Pancakes" Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Torah Reading and Hakafot at 10:15 a.m. Mincha and Maariv at 6:30 p.m.

Simchat Torah: Chabad. Morning Services with Torah dancing at 9:45 a.m., followed by annual deli Simchat Torah lunch. Afternoon/Evening Services at 7 p.m.

Simchat Torah Services: AAOM. Held at Hillel, 1429 Hill Street. Special kids program at 11:15 a.m. For details, email community@annarborminyan.org or visit www.annarborminyan.org.

SAC Presentation: Gerrymandering: TBE. 6:30 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays*.

Wednesday 3

Mahj: TBE. Offsite. 1 p.m.

Hebrew School: TBE. 4:30 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6:30 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 4

TBE Baking Mavens: TBE. 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Judaism 101: TBE. 7–8 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study from the original Talmud tractate. 8 p.m. *Thursdays*.

Friday 5

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

First Friday Shabbat: JCS. All invited to welcome the Shabbat with secular readings, songs, candle lighting, wine and challah. Dinner follows the short observance. Children are welcome. Dinner is free for JCS members and $10/person; $25/family for non-members. Register online at www.jewishculturalsociety.org/observances/shabbat. 6:30–9 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m. Shabbat Service: TBE Board Installation from 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 6

Religious School: TBE. 8:30–10:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Baby Shabbat: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Chapel Service: TBE. 10 a.m.–Noon.

Religious School: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Baby Shabbat: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM. Spirited and lively Tot Shabbat meeting every 1st and 3rd Saturday. For tots ages 0–5 years old and their families. Tot friendly service with singing, storytime, and a kids Kiddush to follow. Held at Hillel, 1429 Hill Street. Non-members welcome and encouraged to attend. For details, email community@annarborminyan.org or visit www.annarborminyan.org. 11:15 a.m.–Noon.

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 7

Sukkah Deconstruction: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Social Action Committee Meeting: BIC. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m. *Sundays.*

Song of Songs Study Session: Pardes Hannah. At home of Linda and Elliot, 2924 Baylis Drive. 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Adult Social Group Meeting: BIC. 12:30 p.m.

Brotherhood Sukkah Take-Down: TBE. 1 p.m.

"Presentation and Desserts:" ORT. ORT Ann Arbor Fall Event at the home of Patti Aaron. Members and prospective members welcome. Presentation by Dr. Goldy Mazia, alumna of Colegio Colombo Hebreo, newest affiliated school of the World ORT Global Network. Mazia will speak about growing up Jewish in Colombia and desserts of Colombia will be served. Suggested donation is $10. Rides available, if needed. RSVP to Gretta Spier at a2gretta@mac.com. 1:30–3:30 p.m.

The Practice of Forgiveness: Pardes Hannah. Teachings with Lucinda Kurtz and Oran Hesterman, Certified Sage-ing® Mentors. At home of Linda and Elliot, 2924 Baylis Drive. For details including cost, contact lucinda@lucinda.kurtz.com. 2–5 p.m.

Hebrew School: TBE. 3–5 p.m.

Torah Cantillation: TBE. 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Religious School: TBE. 6–7:30 p.m.

"An Evening with Ari Axelrod: Celebrating Judaism and Broadway:" EMU Center for Jewish Studies. Offered as part of the Center's Performance/Speaker Series. Straight from dazzling cabaret performances at New York venues Feinstein's/54 Below and The Green Room 42, Ann Arbor's own Ari Axelrod comes to Eastern Michigan University for an evening of musical selections and stories showcasing Jewish contributions to the American stage. Hors d'oeuvres reception and desserts. $250 for reserved table; $18 per person; $10 students with ID. EMU Student Center Ballroom. 6 p.m.

Kol Halev: TBE. 6:15–7:45 p.m.

Monday 8

WTBE Historical Novel Reading Group: TBE. 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Judaism 101: TBE. 1–2 p.m.

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All levels and ages welcome for conversation in *mame-loshn*, literally the "mother tongue." Meets at Maizie's Kitchen & Market in the UM Michigan League, 911 North University Avenue. Free and open to all lovers of Yiddish language, whether affiliated with the university or not. All manner of topics are discussed, with an effort to improve participants' Yiddish speaking skills, especially vocabulary. Bring your own lunch or purchase something from the café. For information, email egertel@umich.edu or phone (734) 936-2367. 1 p.m. *Mondays*.

Keshet: TBE. 5:30–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 9

"The Concept of a Universal Humanity, Social Justice and National Individuality in Modern Jewish Thought:" Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Presented by University of Michigan Padnos Visiting Professor, Yossi Turner. One of the major themes of modern Jewish thought is the ever-changing relationship between the identity of Jews as a group and the concept of a universal humanity. This lecture will suggest that one of the major differences between Jewish thought in Israel and the North American diaspora is to be found in the opposing ways in which each understands national and ethnic individuality in connection with the idea of a universal humanity. For information, email judaicstudies@umich.edu or phone (734) 763-9047. Room 2022, 202 South Thayer Street. 4 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays*.

Wednesday 10

Hebrew School: TBE. 4:30

Keshet: TBE. 6:30 p.m.

"On Site/Sight: From Europe to the Lower East Side and Beyond:" UM Frankel Center. Sara Blair, author of *How the Other Half Looks: The Lower East Side and the Afterlives of Images* (Princeton University Press), and Shachar Pinsker, author of *A Rich Brew: How Cafes Created Modern Jewish Culture* (NYU Press), moderated by Deborah Dash Moore, will discuss their recently published books. They will explore issues of place and space, new modes of producing images and texts, and the creation of urban modern Jewish culture. At Literati Bookstore, 124 East Washington Street. 7 p.m.

Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan/New Moon Gathering: Pardes Hannah. Facilitated by Lucinda Kurtz. At the home of Lucinda. For details, phone Lucinda at (734) 635-9441. 7 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 11

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Judaism 101: TBE. 7–8 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 12

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

New Member Shabbat Services and Dinner: BIC. 6 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m. Shabbat Service from 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 13

Religious School: TBE. 8:30–10:15 a.m.

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50-9:50 a.m.

Chapel Service: TBE. 10 a.m.–Noon.

Religious School: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Mini Minyan: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 14

Executive Committee Meeting: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m. *Sundays.*

Kever Avot Service: TBE. Arborcrest Memorial Park. 11 a.m.–Noon.

Hebrew School: TBE. 3–5 p.m.

Torah Cantillation: TBE. 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Religious School: TBE. 6–7:30 p.m.

Kol Halev: TBE. 6:15–7:45 p.m.

Monday 15

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). 1 p.m. *See October 8.*

Judaism 101: TBE. 1–2 p.m.

"Not Your Father's Anti-Semitism:" EMU Center of Jewish Studies. Presented by Dr. Michael Berenbaum, who played a leading role in the creation of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) and served until 1993 as the museum's Project Director. Berenbaum also served as director of the museum's Holocaust Research Institute from 1993-1997, and then served for two years as President and CEO of the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation. He is currently Director of the Sigi Ziering Institute: Exploring the Ethical and Religious Implications of the Holocaust. EMU Student Center Ballroom. 2 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 5;30–8:30 p.m.

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE. 7:30–9 p.m.

Tuesday 16

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays*.

Flu Shot Clinic @ the J: JCC. The J is partnering with CVS Pharmacy to provide this year's flu shot clinic. To sign up, contact Rachael at (734) 971-0990 or by email at rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org. Bring your insurance card. Contact your insurance company with any questions about your coverage. Noon–6 p.m.

Cemetery Committee Meeting: TBE. 3–5 p.m.

Wednesday 17

Mahj: TBE. Offsite. 1–2 p.m.

Hebrew School: TBE. 4:30 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6:30 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Board Meeting: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 18

Third Thursday @ the J: Meet and Greet with State Representative Yousef Rabhi: JCC. Rabhi grew up in Washtenaw County and is an alumnus of Ann Arbor Public Schools. He served for three terms on the County Board of Commissioners and has served on nearly 20 different boards and committees. RSVP to Rachael at rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org or phone (734) 971-0990 to reserve an optional lunch for purchase. 12–1 p.m.

"Madame Bovary in the Jewish Provinces: Fradel Shtok's Modernist Yiddish Prose:" UM Frankel Center. Presentation by Allison Schachter,

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directed by ALEXANDRA DUNCAN

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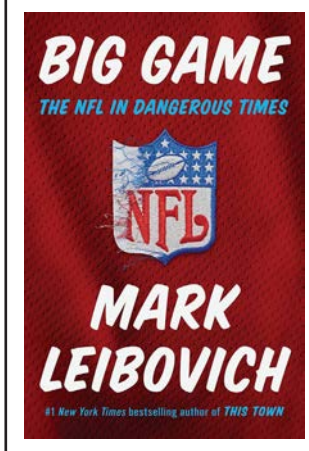
EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

CONCERT | SONGS FROM THE WOMEN OF JEWISH SPAIN

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4 • 7-8:30PM
DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

Join Leahaliza Lee as she honors the authentic sound of Ladino song, which emerged from Spain's mixed Jewish, Christian, and Muslim history. *Leahaliza Lee has performed in Ladino at Carnegie Hall, the New York Jewish Music Festival, the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music, and Wayne State University Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies.*



AUTHOR EVENT
MARK LEIBOVICH DISCUSSES HIS NEW BOOK *BIG GAME: THE NFL IN DANGEROUS TIMES*

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15
7-8:30PM • DOWNTOWN LIBRARY

Mark Leibovich discusses his book, probing America's biggest cultural force, pro football, at a moment of peak success and high anxiety. *This event includes a book signing and books will be for sale.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT AADL.ORG

COMING SOON!

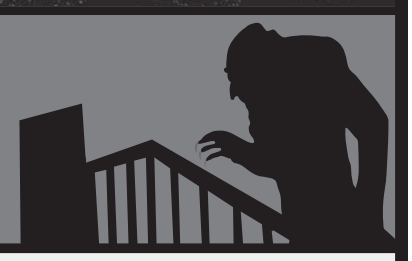
HALLOWEEN AT THE STATE!

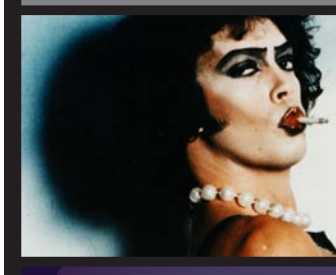
EVIL DEAD (1968)	CABIN IN THE WOODS (2014)	THE EXORCIST (1977)	THE BABADOOK (2013)
FRI. 10/12 9:30 PM	SAT. 10/13 11:59 PM *TICKETS ARE ONLY $8*	FRI. 10/26 9:30 PM	SAT. 10/27 11:59 PM *TICKETS ARE ONLY $8*

NOSFERATU

WITH LIVE ORGAN ACCOMPANIMENT

FRI. OCT. 19 7:00 PM
AT THE MICHIGAN!





THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

SAT. OCT. 20 10:00 PM
AT THE MICHIGAN!

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SUNDAYS AT 1:30 PM AT THE STATE!

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October 21 — HOCUS POCUS (1993)
October 28 — FRANKENWEENIE (2012)

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HONORING THOSE FIGHTING TO
END GUN VIOLENCE

The 2018 Wallenberg Medal will be awarded to **B.R.A.V.E.** (Bold Resistance Against Violence Everywhere) Youth Leaders of the Faith Community of St. Sabina and **March For Our Lives** from Parkland, Florida. Members of both groups will be present.

PRESENTATION AND LECTURE
November 14, 2018 | 7:30 p.m. | Rackham Auditorium

TICKETS: wallenberg.eventbrite.com
Free and open to the public, but tickets are required.

WALLENBERG LEGACY
MEDAL & LECTURE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Vanderbilt University. Celebrated primarily as the poet who wrote the first sonnet in Yiddish, Fradel Shtok was also a masterful prose stylist. She published a single collection of short fiction in 1919 that was dismissed by some critics for its embrace of prose narrative techniques that made her more akin to Flaubert than to Sholem Aleichem. Although not true, the lore about Shtrok is that she died in an asylum traumatized by negative reviews. This talk offers a revised account of Yiddish modernism, one that acknowledges the centrality of woman in the modern Jewish revolution. This event is supported by the ETA Chapter of Phi Sigma Delta Fraternity Scholarships. For information, email judaicstudies@umich.edu or phone (734) 763-9047. Room 2022, 202 South Thayer Street. 1 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Brotherhood Guys' Night Out: TBE. 6–7:30 p.m.

Judaism 101: TBE. 7–8 p.m.

Arts Around Town: Magen David Adom presents Alan Dershowitz in Conversation: JCC. Information and tickets available online at afmda.org. For information about the complete Arts Around Town schedule, see book.jccannarbor.org or contact Karen at karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org or by phone at (974) 971-0990. 7–8:30 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 19

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. 5:45–6:15 p.m.

Tot Shabbat Dinner: TBE. 7:30–9 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 20

Religious School: TBE. 8:30–10:15 a.m.

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Bat Mitzvah Service: TBE. 10 a.m.–Noon

Shabbat Morning Services: Pardes Hannah. Led by Reb Elliot Ginsburg. Lower Level of Beth Israel Annex, 2010 Washtenaw Avenue. 10 a.m.

Religious School: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Preschool 3: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Madrichim Training: TBE. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 21

Tot Family Gathering–Torah Ark Project: AAOM. Help create an ark for the stuffed Torahs used for Tot Shabbat. New faces welcome. For details, including location, email community@annarborminyan.org or visit www.annarborminyan.org. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m. *Sundays.*

Hebrew School: TBE. 3–5 p.m.

Torah Cantillation: TBE. 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Religious School: TBE. 6–7:30 p.m.

Kol Halev: TBE. 6:15–7:45 p.m.

Presentation: BIC. Professor Jonathan Levine presents "Environmental Responsibility at the Municipal Level." 7:45 p.m.

Monday 22

Refugee Symposium: JFS. Keeping Our Door Open: A Multi-Dimensional Approach to Refugee Resettlement. Leaders, scholars, politicians, and professionals discuss crucial topics surrounding: Health and Wellness; Impact and Integration; Policy and Advocacy; and Transformative Practices. Keynote speakers include Dr. Jeff Crisp, Oxford University Refugee Studies Centre; Debbie Dingell, U.S. Representative for Michigan's 12th District; and Mark Hetfield, President and CEO of HIAS. Co-sponsored by UM School of Social Work and UM C.S. Mott Children's Hospital. For information or to register, visit jfsannarbor.org/symposium or phone (734) 769-0209. University of Michigan, Rackham Graduate Building, 915 East Washington Street. 8 a.m.–4:15 p.m.

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). 1 p.m. *See October 8.*

Judaism 101: TBE. 1–2 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 5:30–8:30 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 23

Refugee Symposium: JFS. Keeping Our Door Open: A Multi-Dimensional Approach to Refugee Resettlement. 8 a.m.–3 p.m. *See October 22.*

"Jewish Women and Conversion in Medieval Europe:" Presented by Paola Tartakoff, Rutgers University. To date, the history of conversion between Judaism and Christianity in medieval Europe has focused largely on men. The clerks, canon lawyers, preachers, popes, kings, bishops, theologians, chroniclers, rabbis, and poets who wrote about converts were men. Yet, medieval sources also shed light on the experiences of women. This lecture will present new research on the lives of women who converted to and from Judaism in medieval Spain and northern Europe. For information, email judaicstudies@umich.edu or phone (734) 763-9047. Room 2022, 202 South Thayer Street. 4 p.m.

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. 7–9 p.m.

Arts Around Town: Michael Ochs: JCC. Yiddish Operetta lecture and demonstration by Michael Ochs. Britton Recital Hall in the Earl V. Moore Building on UM campus, 1100 Baits Drive. For information about the complete Arts Around Town schedule, see book.jccannarbor.org or contact Karen at karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org or by phone at (974) 971-0990. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *See first Tuesday of month.*

Wednesday 24

Hebrew School: TBE. 4:30–6:30 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 25

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Judaism 101: TBE. 7–8 p.m.

Arts Around Town: Michael Hodges: JCC. Author Michael Hodges discusses his new book *Building the Modern World: Albert Kahn in Detroit.* Festival sponsors enjoy dinner at 6 p.m. before author talk. For information about the complete Arts Around Town schedule, see book.jccannarbor.org or contact Karen at karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org or by phone at (974) 971-0990. 7–8:30 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 26

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. 5:45–6:15 p.m.

Tot Shabbat Dinner: TBE. 6:15–6:45 p.m.

Shabbat Kiddush and Potluck: Pardes Hannah. At the home of Linda Leah and Richard Greene. Bringing friends is encouraged. 6:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 27

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Bat Mitzvah Service: TBE. 10 a.m.–Noon.

Shabbat Morning Chant, and Meditation Service: Pardes Hannah. Led by Gabrielle Pescador, Linda Leah Greene and Dalinda Reese. At Beth Israel Annex, 2010 Washtenaw Avenue. 10:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Mini Minyan: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 28

Monthly Playgroup: TBE. Offsite. 10–Noon.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m. *Sundays.*

Chant Circle: Pardes Hannah. Gather and Refreshments at 10:45 a.m. Chant and Reflect from 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m . At the home of Linda Leah Greene, 3300 East Delhi Road. RSVP to lingreene@gmail.com.

Arts Around Town: Leslie Sobel: JCC. Reception for opening of Leslie Sobel's photography exhibit. For information about the complete Arts Around Town schedule, see book.jccannarbor.org or contact Karen at karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org or by phone at (974) 971-0990. 3–5 p.m.

Torah Cantillation: TBE. 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6:30 p.m.

Religious School: TBE. 6–7:30 p.m.

Kol Halev: TBE. 6:15–7:45 p.m.

Monday 29

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). 1 p.m. *See October 8.*

Judaism 101: TBE. 1–2 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 5:30–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 30

"Whitechapel Noise: Politics, Sex and Religion in Yiddish Rhyme on the Streets of London's East End 1884-1914:" UM Frankel Center. Presented by Vivi Lachs, Birbeck, University of London. This talk, illustrated with song, will examine the abundance of Yiddish kupletn (rhyming couplets) written by Jewish immigrant songwriters and poets in pre-World-War-I London. These protest hymns, music-hall songs and satirical verse, until now hidden in archives, tell tales that expand and nuance our knowledge of immigrant history. As an accessible popular culture, they tell these stories with humor, intensity, and passion. This talk will give an overview of these key ideas, illustrating theoretical and historical points with engaging poetic and musical examples. Event supported by the ETA Chapter of Phi Sigma Delta Fraternity Scholarships. For information, email judaicstudies@umich.edu or phone (734) 763-9047. Room 2022, 202 South Thayer Street. 4 p.m.

AARTY Trick or Can: TBE. Offsite. 6–7:30 p.m.

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Keshet: TBE. 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Arts Around Town: Harvey Ovshinsky: JCC. Ovshinsky will discuss his father's biography, *The Man Who Saw Tomorrow.* For information about the complete Arts Around Town schedule, see book.jccannarbor.org or contact Karen at karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org or by phone at (734) 971-0990. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *See first Tuesday of month.*

Wednesday 31

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

November 1

"A Conversation with Lisa Kron:" EMU Center for Jewish Studies. Lisa Kron is a writer and performer whose work has been widely produced in New York, regionally, and internationally. She wrote the book and lyrics for the musical *Fun House*, with music by composer Jeanine Tesori, which won five 2015 Tony Awards including Best Book, Score, and Musical, and was finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. Co-sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, the Ann Arbor JCC 2018 Books and Arts Festival, the Eastern Michigan University (EMU) Honors Program, EMU Department of English, EMU Department of Women's and Gender Studies Department, and EMU Department of Communication, Media, and Theater Arts. EMU Student Center Auditorium. 7:30 p.m.

November 2

First Friday Shabbat–with Judy Seid: JCS. Join the JCS for a special Shabbat, when former JCS leader, Rabbi Judith Seid, will lead an event called "The Oldest Jewish Thing." After welcoming Shabbat with secular readings, songs, candle lighting, wine, and challah, participants will eat a catered dinner from a local restaurant. Following dinner, those who brought "the oldest Jewish thing" from their home will describe the object. Judy will then add cultural and historical context to the discussion. 6:30–9 p.m.

November 4

Book Talk: JCS. Rabbi Judith Seid, former leader of the JCS, will talk about her revised book, *God-Optional Judaism: Alternatives for Cultural Jews Who Love Their History, Heritage and Community.* Part of JCC Jewish Book Festival. 10 a.m.–Noon.

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel. Call (734) 994-9258 in advance to confirm time.

Shabbat Service: BIC. 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 6 p.m., followed by tot dinner. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. Once a month Middle School Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call (734) 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: AARC. Every fourth Friday at the JCC. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Pizza for the little ones at 6:15 p.m. Service at 6:30 p.m., followed by vegetarian potluck at 8 p.m. Childcare during service. All are welcome to attend. For information, email info@aarecon.org, phone (734) 445-1910, or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candle lighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call (734) 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service, 9:30 a.m. Evening service, 35 minutes before sunset. Call (734) 662-5805 for information.

Mincha/Ma'ariv with Seudah Shlisheet and Dvar Torah every week. Torah topics and a bite to eat. Discussions led by Rabbi Rod Glogower and other local scholars. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals. UM Hillel.

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. For other service times, visit www.bethisrael-aa.org.

Shabbat Services: AARC. Second Saturday of each month at the JCC. 10 a.m. Ta-Shma/Come and Learn. Service begins at 10:30 a.m. Traditional liturgy with music, chanting and contemporary readings and discussion. For information, email info@aarecon.org, phone (734) 445-1910, or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Friday night services at Shabbat candle lighting time. Saturday morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon services 45 minutes before sundown. Call (734) 995-3276 for Home Hospitality and Meals for Shabbat and Jewish Holidays.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call (734) 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study at 8:50 a.m. Morning Minyan with Rabbi Josh Whinston and Cantor Regina Lambert-Hayut at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. most weeks. Call the office at (734) 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: AAOM. Call (734) 662-5805 in advance.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and Holiday. Call (734) 995-3276 in advance.

Phone numbers and addresses of organizations frequently listed in the calendar:

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street 994-5822

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation (AARC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 913-9705

Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Ave. 665-9897

Chabad House
715 Hill Street 995-3276

Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 971-0990

Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 975-9872

Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street 769-0209

Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 677-0100

Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Ave. 761-5324

Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
2309 Packard Road 665-4744

UM Hillel
1429 Hill Street 769-0500

Shabbat Candlelighting

October 5.....6:49 pm

October 12.....6:37 pm

October 19.....6:26 pm

October 26.....6:16 pm

Vitals

Mazel tov

Nicole Schwartz on her bat mitzvah, October 20.
Maddie Grand on her bat mitzvah, October 27.
Aaron Willis and Rachel Goldstein on the birth of their daughter, Lila Ayelet.

Condolences

Andrew Bank and Alison Bank on the death of Morris Irwin Bank, August 6.
Doris Sperling on the death of her husband, Lawrence Sperling, August 3.
Anne Heybey Wasciuk on the death of her uncle, Harold Gold, August 29.
Andrew Sugerman on the death of his father, Donald Sugerman, September 8.
Andy Ludwig on the death of her husband, Bob Ludwig, September 7.
Allen Stupta on the death of her father, Josph Stupka on September 8.

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Academy of Early Music 19
Alex Milshteyn, Coldwell Banker, Weir Manuel 3
Amadeus Cafe/Patisserie....2
American Friends of Magen David....10
Ann Arbor City Club 13
Ann Arbor Civic Theatre....24
Ann Arbor District Library 24
Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra 27
Ayse's Café 12
Bank of Ann Arbor 14
Bennett Optometry....27
Brookhaven Manor Apartments 17
Dorfman Funeral Home....19
Encore Online Resale 2
Frankel Center....16
Gold Bond Cleaners....25
Cantor Samuel Greenbaum; mohel 19
Hurwitz-Greene Real Estate Group 19
Jewish Community Center 5
Jewish Family Services 28
Jewish Federation....12, 15
Margolis Nursery 12
Michigan Theater....24
Modern Mechanical....19
MOSA Audiology....19
Pam Sjo, The Reinhart Company....10
People's Food Co-op 13
Purple Rose Theatre Company 2
Raoul Wallenberg Endowment Committee...24
Ron's Glass....17
Susan Ayer Photography....25
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Weiner Financial Group LLC 14
West Side Art Hop....13
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JFS Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County

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featuring ***Deborah Dash Moore, Ph.D.***

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